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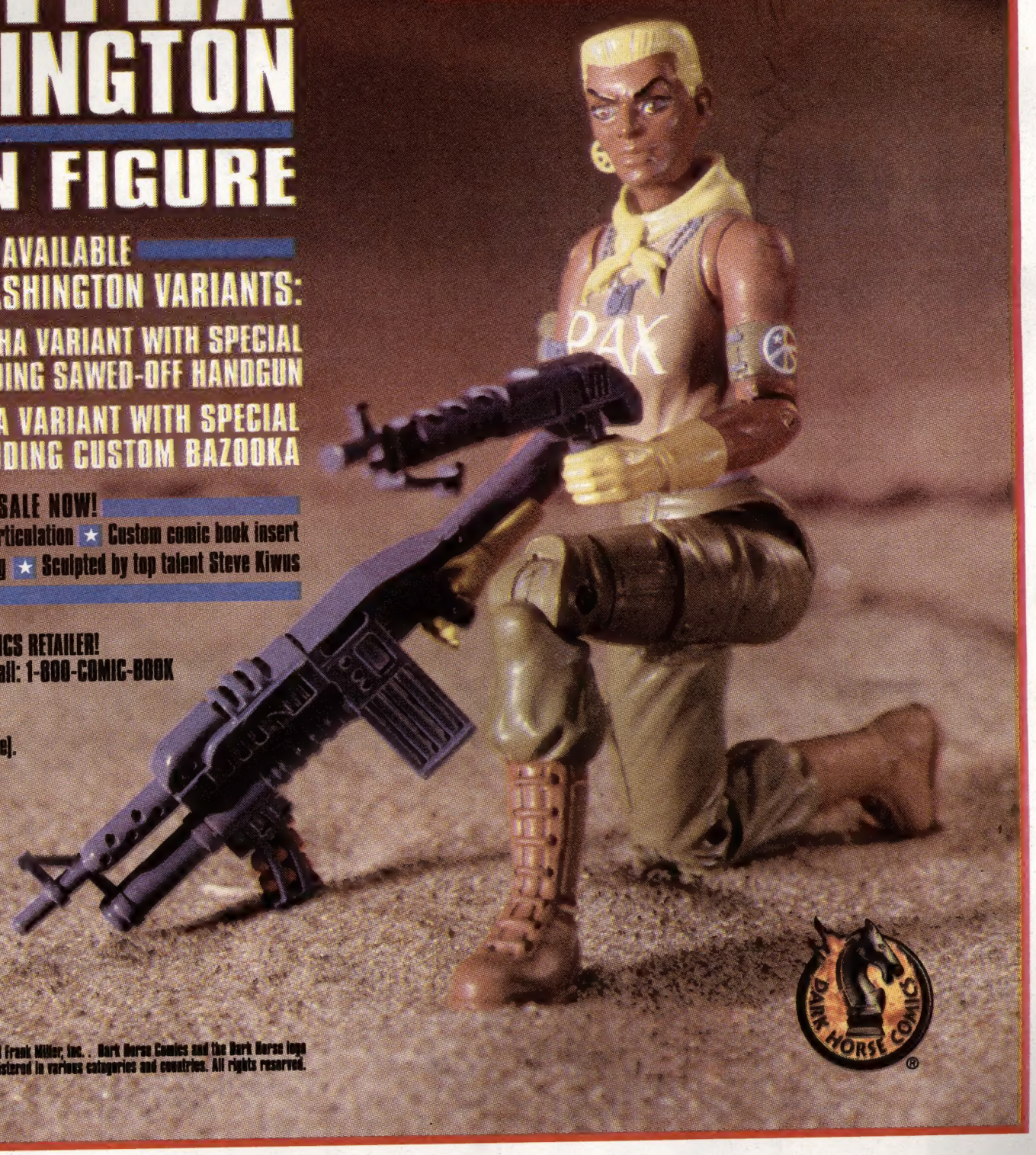

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This week in CBG

On the cover: My favorite!

By Joe Kubert

My favorite among the many combat stories I drew was "What's the Color of Your Blood?" It ran in *Our Army At War* #160 [Nov 65] and was written by Bob Kanigher, who probably wrote 90% of all the war stories I did, till I took over as editor.

It was the first time that Bob in a story focused on the differences among races. Jackie Johnson was the black guy in Easy Company, and the story showed him fighting the Nazis in a hand-to-hand battle. The Nazi is goading Jackie during the fight, demanding that Jackie admit that the color of his blood is black..

Bob wanted to get across that the color of blood doesn't represent the color of skin — and that kind of stood out to me as one of the most interesting and best stories Bob had done. It was a kind of landmark story.

*[**Editor's Note:** To quote from Michael Uslan's introduction to **America at War: The Best of DC War Comics** (1979): "Kubert is the DC war comics master. His highly stylized, gritty, piercing illustrations embody all the horrors of war and the intricacy of detailed war machines. When Kubert's soldiers crawl across Italy on their bellies, you see the pain, the weariness, the insanity of war in the faces of soldiers. When two World War I planes engage in a dog fight, you can identify specific types of planes, each type being accurately drawn as if the blueprints had been carefully studied. It is Kubert's hard-hitting interpretation of war that the readers have been viewing since the early days of **Our Army at War**, and it is his style that acts as the model for nearly every artist who has followed him."*

*Today, Kubert is equally known for his **Fax from Sarajevo** and for the number of today's artists he has trained at his art school. In **CBG** #1308, we'll fill you in on a new opportunity to learn some of what he knows — by mail.]*

Industry news

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Daredevil Contest Winners

Congratulations to the four winners in our Daredevil Laser Mat contest sponsored by Laser Mach. Each winner will receive a Daredevil Laser Mat (a matted art transparency with a laser-etched border — both featuring images of Daredevil). And the winners are: **Leslie Wheat, Mt. Sterling, Ky.; Brian Calkins, Lynnville, Tenn.; Blake A. Bolick, China Grove, N.C.;** and **Elyse Provda, State College, Pa.**

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to Laser Mach for providing the prizes.

Keep watching for more contests in upcoming issues of ***CBG***.

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Present presents

The comics industry may be recovering at last — but there are still endeavors that can use your help.

☞ I sat in stunned amazement, as Harlan Ellison went into a revival-meeting-style harangue at a recent convention in Madison, Wis. He wanted to raise money for the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund and asked members of the audience to pull folding money from their pockets and hold the bills over their heads. Then, volunteers raced through the audience, plucking the bills from ready hands — and he raised an enormous pile of money within 10 minutes. But that won't solve all the problems that have been and will be, when, for example, a state tries to levy an inappropriate tax on comic-book artists (as in the Paul Mavrides case in California). Donations can be sent at any time to the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund, P.O. Box 693, Northampton, MA 01061. The creator or shop you help may be your own.

☞ Harvey Kurtzman's widow, Adele, continues to promote the work they did together for years: raising money for The Clear View School, a day treatment program for emotionally disturbed children which was founded by Harvey and others three decades ago. Last week, we ran details on the comics benefit auction scheduled for Nov. 7. More information is available from Adele at (914) 941-4653 (phone) or (914) 941-1649 (fax).

☞ While Charles Vess attended the Chicago comics convention this summer, his wife, Karen Shaffer, was in an auto accident and suffered a broken neck. Everyone is enormously grateful that she will apparently recover almost completely, but the medical bills are staggering. The industry is pitching in; some beautiful work has been produced to help out with the expenses. Contributions should be made out to The Karen Shaffer Good Goddess Recovery Fund, c/o Green Man Press, 152 E. Main St., Abingdon, VA 24210.

(The benefit *A Fall of Stardust* 48-page, full-color book with a new short story by Vess and Neil Gaiman and new art by a number of creators including Jeff Smith, Dave McKean, Michael W. Kaluta, Geof Darrow, Jill Thompson, Moebius, Sergio Aragonés, Paul Chadwick, and Terry Moore is scheduled to be available for $5.95 by year's end. It can be ordered via comics shops.)

☞ N.C. Christopher Couch writes, "On the 20th anniversary of the publication of Will Eisner's *A Contract with God*, the first work to be published as a graphic novel, the Departments of Comparative Literature, English, and Art History, University of Massachusetts – Amherst, the Yiddish Book Center, and the Words & Pictures Museum will present a conference on the history, aesthetics, and future of the form." Eisner is scheduled to appear at the conference, as is Scott McCloud. Conference panels and papers will include presentations on the work of Will Eisner and Alan Moore, African-Americans and graphic novels, lettering, and graphic novels in publishing and marketing. The conference will be Nov. 13-15 in the University of Massachusetts Campus Center, and registration is $5. However, that won't cover the costs, and donations to support the conference are fully tax-deductible. Checks can be made payable to the University of Massachusetts and sent to Graphic Novel Conference, Dept. of Comparative Literature, South College, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. Write for more information or call (413) 586-9525, ext. 21.

☞ Museums will always appreciate support and can accept donations. These include:
Cartoon Art Museum, 814 Mission St., San Francisco, CA.
International Museum of Cartoon Art, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton, FL 33432.
Words & Pictures Museum, 140 Main St., Northampton, MA 01060.

☞ Friends of Lulu is a national non-profit organization working to promote and encourage female readership and participation in the comics industry. Contribution checks can be made out to Friends of Lulu. Checks (and simple membership inquiries — in which case, ask for information and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope) can be sent to FoL, c/o Jackie Estrada, 4657 Cajon Way, San Diego, CA 92115.

☞ And (aside from industry gifts) don't forget to register as an organ donor via your drivers' license, if that option is available to you. And to donate blood, if you're eligible. Some gifts *do* keep on giving.

— Maggie Thompson

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COMICS **Let's get ready to rumble**—in the new **Shi: Spirit of Benkei Battlebook**, courtesy of Battlebooks, Inc.!

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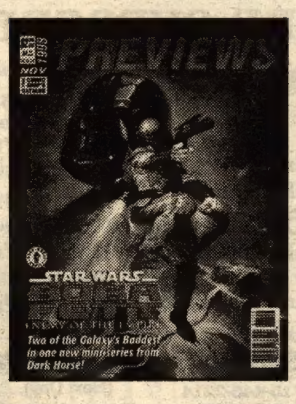
FEATURES A special interview with **Billy Tucci**, who tells all about the gaming and comic phenomenon of the next century—**Battlebooks**!

It's November—give thanks for the latest and greatest offerings from PREVIEWS! On the front cover: The rumors are true—**DC and WildStorm** have become one! Around back, the bounty hunter with an attitude returns in Dark Horse's **Star Wars: Boba Fett—Enemy of the Empire!**



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Familiar names out as new ownership cleans house at Marvel

*By **John Jackson Miller***
***CBG** Managing Editor*

Now in control of the newly redubbed Marvel Enterprises, Toy Biz management began sweeping changes to Marvel's personnel roster in mid-October, according to unofficial sources at Marvel. While Marvel Publicist Maryanne Caruso would not comment officially for the record "until any changes are in place," word of management changes spread quickly through the industry.

Unofficial reports indicate that Gerard "Jerry" Calabrese, president of Marvel Entertainment Group from March 1995 to mid-1996, has returned after a two-year absence to the post of president, replacing Joseph Calamari, an appointee of Carl Icahn's board. Further unofficial reports indicate Calabrese may additionally assume the responsibilities of Executive Vice President – Publishing Shirrel Rhoades, reportedly removed the week of Oct. 19.

On Oct. 23, word came out of Marvel of a major series of layoffs similar in scope, if not actual number, to the "Black Wednesday" of early 1996. Two Marvel sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, indicated while the terminations were still ongoing, casualties included longtime Marvel executive and Vice President of Editorial Planning Jim "Ski" Sokolowski.

Other terminations, according to one of the sources, included Editorial Director Jackie Carter, a high-profile emigré from Scholastic Books and developer of the Marvel "Kids" line featured in ***CBG*** #1302. The source also reported the elimination of the project, which Caruso would not confirm or deny.

Editorial personnel let go, according to another of the sources, included Joe Andreani, Mark Bernardo, Kelly Corvese, Jaye Gardner, Glenn Greenberg, Jim Kreuger, Julio Soto, Tim Tuohy, and Jason White.

In sales, reported terminations included Marketing Manager John Dokes and several Marvel field representatives. Front-office personnel let go earlier in the week, according to a third source, included Millie Shurriff in accounting and Maureen Kemph in office management.

Finally, sources report the voluntary departure earlier in October of Dan Buckle, Marvel vice-president of marketing, for a job outside the comics industry.

Ordinarily, Marvel has not publicly confirmed the departure of employees. The 1996 departure of Calabrese, for example, was never officially acknowledged in any statement to the comics press.

Calabrese originally came to the comics-reading public's attention during Ron Perelman's stewardship of Marvel as an authority on consumer lists. He was featured in a publishing industry trade magazine as the executive whose list management was reportedly helping Perelmen pursue his vision for Marvel as a Disney-like youth entertainment giant.

His contacts with comics retailers were somewhat more tempestuous: He is regarded by many retailers as the force within Marvel behind 1994's controversial *Marvel Mart* direct sales catalog, and he served as president during Marvel's stormy operation of Heroes World Distribution.

In his sole major interview in the comics industry, with ***CBG*** (#1159, Feb. 2, 1996), Calabrese described Marvel's major mission as "making good comic books" and described bringing in new readers, particularly kids, as necessary to Marvel's prosperity.

***CBG** columnist **Michael Doran** contributed to this story.*

Diamond owner Geppi acquires largest mail-order business

By John Jackson Miller

Diamond Comic Distributors President and CEO Steve Geppi acquired a majority interest in Another-Universe.com, previously known as American Entertainment, Oct. 20.

In addition to a large website offering comics and comics-related merchandise, the company has a chain of retail stores in the Baltimore and Washington, D.C., area as well as a mail-order division. Last year, the company reported sales of more than $17 million. AnotherUniverse.com founder and President Steve Milo will remain in his position and will continue to guide the company's day-to-day operations.

In a press release, Geppi said that he invested his own funds, not Diamond's, into the purchase and that "AnotherUniverse.com will operate independently of Diamond. For a number of years, Steve Milo's AnotherUniverse.com has been Diamond's largest customer, and he's sold a tremendous amount of product on behalf of our suppliers."

Save Milo — or else? While Milo's company was Diamond's single largest account and maintained the highest profile of any mail-order service (with several ads in *TV Guide*), the company's financial difficulties increasingly became public knowledge as 1998 progressed. One observer reported two external infusions of cash over the course of the past 12 months, neither of which solved the basic cash-flow problems — problems which were reflected publicly in relations with suppliers and with contributors to its website entertainment feature.

As owner of AU's largest creditor, Geppi said he saw an interest in preventing its failure. "[Milo's] plans required outside financing which, unfortunately, didn't materialize to the level of his needs, due to the recent troubles in the capital markets," Geppi said. "Without this capital, Another-Universe.com was in a position where it could not continue to meet its purchasing obligations to Diamond," leading to Geppi's decision to "prevent a sizable set-back to our industry" and keep AnotherUniverse.com going.

"This wasn't an easy decision," Geppi continued, "as I didn't plan to be involved with selling products to consumers online. However, as I became more familiar with AnotherUniverse.com, I realized that the site's primary objective is to create new customers by exposing pop-culture fans to our industry's most mainstream offerings.

"AnotherUniverse.com and the Internet are important to the marketplace, but comic-book specialty shops account for 99% of our sales, and their needs will always come first," Geppi concluded.

Competitors react. Chuck Rozanski, owner of Mile High Comics, one of Milo's largest competitors for mail-order comics business, said he was disappointed by Geppi's action to save Milo's firm.

"I question whether the responsible act wouldn't have been to let the thing go down," Rozanski said, adding that much of Milo's mail-order business had come from variant covers and limited comics — "weasel deals," Rozanski said, that add nothing to the industry. "I don't buy it at all that Diamond could've been taken down. With certain publishers, some in the Image group, AU was 10% or more of the business. But others are minimally exposed."

Rozanski also expressed fears of advantages going to his old competitor. "It'll depend on what Steve Geppi's actions are — what kind of firewall there is between his investments and Diamond. How can Steve Geppi not hear what the orders are to one of his largest accounts?" While Geppi said AU would remain completely independent of his businesses, some have noted that his announcement that AU's site will promote Diamond's Comic Shop Locator Service aggressively, while intended to be a service to retailers, may be an exam-

(Continues on Page 8)

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DC answers fan requests for 'Crisis' softcover

In answer to fans' questions regarding the possibility of a trade-paperback version of the upcoming hardcover collection of *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, DC Vice President – Direct Market Sales Bob Wayne issued the following statement:

"DC publishes a wide variety of comics and books. One part of our publishing program in recent years has been the Archives program of high-quality, hardcover reprints of classic DC stories. Most of these books are very expensive to produce. The hardcover format (and the higher price point that is generally acceptable to consumers for hardcover books) make it possible for us to publish these titles. We decided when we began the Archives books to publish them only in hardcover, reserving our best publishing format for our best work.

"Over the years, we've considered doing softcover reprints of some of these books, but ultimately the economics of publishing have worked out to make that unfeasible. This collection in particular required a restoration effort unparalleled in the history of comics. Since the original *Crisis* used a special printing process that has long since been outmoded, every page had to be reconstructed from the original four-color film. The painstaking process included multiple corrections for scratches, art that had dropped out, typos, and other mistakes and inconsistencies.

"We realize that not every DC fan will be able to afford the hardcover of *Crisis*, the same way that not every DC fan has been able to afford *Superman Archives* Vol. 1. The economics of reprinting *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, and the importance of that material to DC's history, lead us to make a similar decision on *Crisis*: Publish only in hardcover, once again reserving our best publishing format for our best work. The only other option we saw was to not collect the series in any fashion. Since *Crisis* would have to be priced at a point higher than even our normal Archives editions, we felt it was fair to announce in advance that we were treating it as an Archives book, with no softcover edition planned."

Fans are not the only ones questioning DC's decision to only publish a hardcover edition. A comics retailer in New Jersey commented in *Comics Retailer's Market Beat* that he had had preorders for nearly 20 copies of the collection until fans learned of the price, at which point his orders dropped to two copies. "Why is this inaccessible to the normal comics fan who craves it," the retailer asked.

DIAMOND
(From Page 6)

ple of AU providing a service to Diamond that it otherwise might not have done – at least not without compensation.

The primary asset is the mailing list, Rozanski said. "The minute [Geppi] starts accessing people, he cannibalizes his own business... I don't think it was necessary to become a participant in the process in order to save it."

Preston Sweet, owner of Main Street Comics in Athens, Ga., said, "The only complaint about AU was that it regularly promoted items unavailable to other retailers. While this was certainly a legitimate business activity, recent events suggest Diamond was essentially underwriting this by allowing AU to build up a large debt. It's my hope that under Geppi's control, AU will be a place where product will be promoted which is available (via Diamond, of course) to all local retailers."

Rob Snell, owner of Gun Dog Comics in Starkville, Miss., said, "Legal or not, if I bought a company that competed directly with my customers, I'd have a hard time sleeping at night...Maybe as a gesture of good faith, Geppi could supply every Diamond account with a mailing list of all AU customers within their trading area."

CBG's extended interview with Steve Milo and Steve Geppi will appear next week.

'Buzzboy' meets Steve Martin

Buzzboy creator John Gallagher and Sky Dog Press have announced that issues of *Buzzboy* will be used as props in two different movies coming out next year from Universal Pictures: *Bowfinger* starring Steve Martin and Eddie Murphy and *Great Falls*.

"Apparently the art director for *Bowfinger* needed some comic books for a background shot in Steve Martin's character's office," said Gallagher. "I guess the simplicity and light-heartedness of *Buzzboy* #1 just caught his eye. And so they called me."

Just two weeks later, Gallagher was contacted by Universal a second time, this time to use *Buzzboy* in *Great Falls*. Gallagher agreed, sending #2 and several posters, eager to spread the word on *Buzzboy*. "Both these films sound like fun, and that's what *Buzzboy* is: a lot of fun."

Buzzboy #2 recently went on sale, and #3 is scheduled to ship in October.

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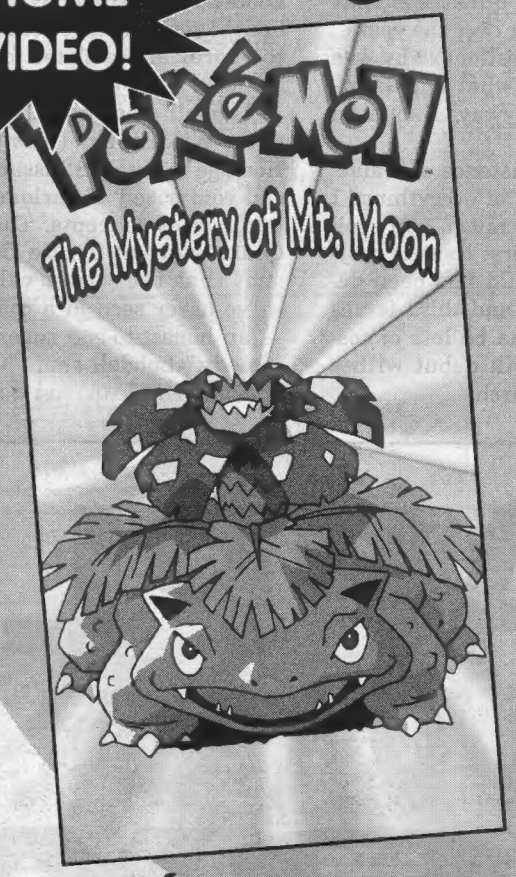

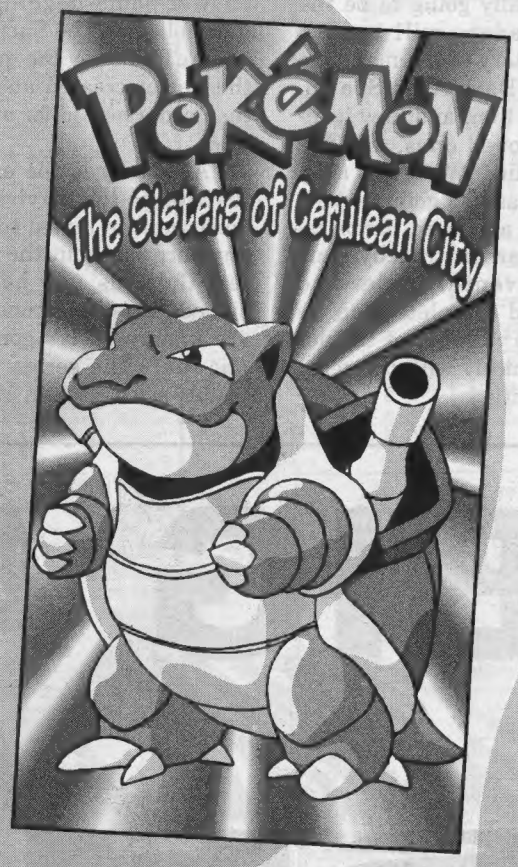

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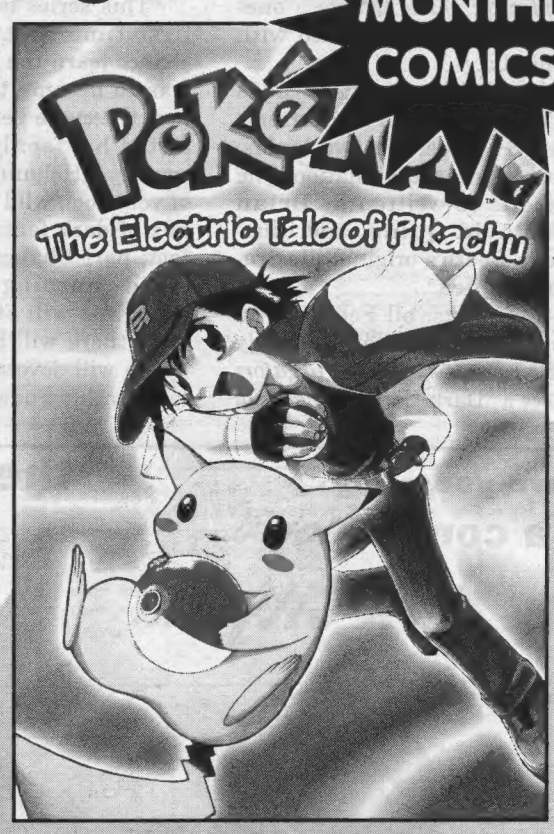

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Chaos comes to Harris. Celebrating her fifth anniversary in a big way, Chaos' Lady Death will make her first team-up appearance in February in *Lady Death/Vampirella: Dark Hearts* a one-shot that teams the diva of death with Harris' Vampirella.

In the special, Vampirella invades Lady Death's realm of Hell, inadvertently opening a rift between the two worlds, dooming them to utter annihilation. The 40-page issue is co-written by **Brian Pulido** and **David Quinn**, and illustrated by Lady Death's original illustrator, **Stephen Hughes**.

As a tie-in of sorts, all February issues of Chaos' ongoing series (*Lady Death* #14, *Evil Ernie* #10, and *Purgatori* #6) will reflect a "Dark Hearts" theme of dark love, twisted romance, or fatal attraction.

Spawn gets medieval. In other Spawn news, *Curse of the Spawn* is slated for the chopping block, but two other projects are waiting in the wings. First up is *Spawn: The Dark Ages* written by *Spawn* co-writer **Brian Holguin** and drawn by **Liam Sharp**. The new monthly series was originally pitched as a mini-series, but Holguin reported that Sharp's pencils and his own growing collection of ideas catapulted it into monthly status.

The new series will star the medieval incarnation of Spawn, who first appeared (and apparently met his demise at the hands of Angela) in *Spawn* #9 and later starred in *Medieval Spawn/Witchblade*.

"This series is really going to be the first time that readers will have a chance learn the history of the man who was to become the Dark Ages Spawn, how the curse befell him, and how it affected his family, loved ones, and his country," Holguin said. "We've got a lot of very cool, wild ideas. It's going to be a mix of dark fantasy and hard historical fact; part Shakespearean tragedy, part blood-churning adventure tale. And though it will stand completely on its own, there will be a number of themes which will dovetail nicely with the regular monthly Spawn title."

Additionally, the lovable cybernetic gorilla, Cy-Gor, is reportedly being spun off into his own series in '99 as well. No creative team has been announced for the series.

Simonson serves up Surfer's origins. With the recent "death" of his ongoing title, it's only fitting that The Silver Surfer returns to meet his maker, and that's exactly what he'll do in a 12-issue maxi-series tentatively titled *Silver Surfer/Galactus*. Written by **Louise Simonson** and fully painted by **Jon J. Muth**, the series explores the relationship between Galactus and his first herald and picks up on themes introduced in **John Byrne**'s "Trial of Galactus" storyline during his run on *The Fantastic Four* in the '80s.

According to Simonson, the series will answer some nagging questions that have followed The Surfer over the years.

"We'll answer the questions: why was the Surfer created and what did Galactus need a herald for anyway," Simonson said.

"Also, why is the existence of Galactus vital to the survival of everything? I don't want to reveal too much, and spoil any surprises, but the first issue is written, Galactus' new herald has been designed, and the second and third issues are underway. It's gonna be lots of cosmic fun!" The series will debut with a double-sized issue in March.

Top Cow team-ups. Top Cow has lined up a creative team for its upcoming crossover with DC, a *Darkness/Batman* one-shot tentatively scheduled for March. The special, to be produced by Top Cow while DC handles the creative honors on a *JLA/Witchblade* companion crossover, will be co-written by **Scott Lobdell** (*WildC.A.T.S*) and **Jeph Loeb** (*Superman for All Seasons*) and co-pencilled by Top Cow founder **Marc Silvestri** and **David Finch** (*Ascension*). DC has yet to name a creative team for *JLA/Witchblade*.

In further Lobdell news, the writer who established himself with Marvel's merry mutants is keeping himself busy in his post-Marvel career. In addition to his other work, the writer is developing a new six-issue mini-series for WildStorm entitled *Mostly Wanted*. Described by Lobdell as a "girl/buddy/space opera," the limited series will be pencilled by **Roberto Flores** and is slated for a summer '99 launch.

Lobdell also recently came to terms with WildStorm (now DC) imprint Homage to create 12 issues of new material comprised of various one-shot and mini-series concepts. The first, *Ball & Chain*, with art by **Ale Garza**, is a one-shot that the writer calls "something we've never seen in a comic book before — an honest-to-god super-hero romantic comedy," Lobdell said. "I can't wait for Tom and Nicole to read it and call!"

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875M2	8 3/4 x 10 3/4	Large Comics, Mag. & Letter	10.75 (21¢)	36 (18¢)	155 (15¢)
900M2	9 x 12	Standard Magazines	13.50 (27¢)	44 (22¢)	190 (19¢)
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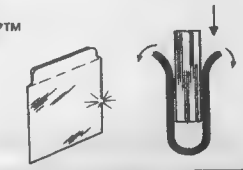

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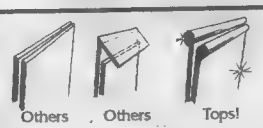

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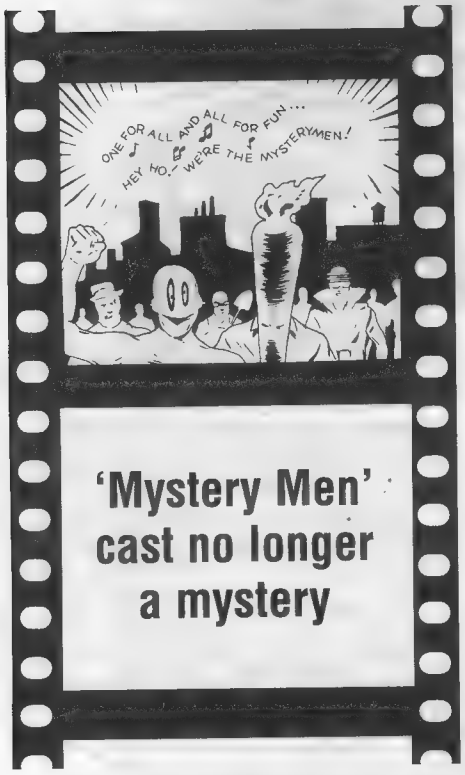

No mystery about 'Mystery Men.' Former *Talk Soup* host and Oscar-nominated actor **Greg Kinnear** has signed on with *Mystery Men* to play Captain Amazing, the only mystery man who truly posses es superpowers, who resents the others riding on his coattails. Kinnear's signing follows **Ben Stiller**'s, who was once in talks to direct the movie, but has since signed to play the lead role of Mr. Furious. As it stands now with the talent that has been amassed, *Mystery Men* will definitely be a buzz movie when it comes out. The cast currently includes: **Hank Azaria, Claire Forlani, Janeane Garofalo, William Macy, Lena Olin, Paul Rubens**, and **Geoffrey Rush**. *Mystery Men* is directed by **Kink Usher**, and is currently filming.

From vampires to crows. According to *Variety*, **Kirsten Dunst** (*Interview with the Vampire*) will play the female lead in the third Crow feature film, *The Crow: Salvation*. The film focuses on a murder victim named Alex Corvis rising from the grave to avenge the murder of a young woman. Dunst will play the murdered woman's sister, a character named Erin Randall, who is also hunting the killers. A mid to late '99 release date is expected for the film.

Copyrights get new lease on life. While more sordid news has been getting the lion's share of media attention in Washington these days, one piece of legislation that affects the entertainment industry did manage to sneak by. Both houses of Congress have passed a bill that extends current U.S. copyrights, bringing the United States' copyright laws more in line with the rest of the world. The bill currently is waiting for President Clinton's signature.

Under the proposed new law, corporation copyrights will be extended from their present 75 to 95 years, while individual copyright material will increase from 50 to 70 years after the death of the creator. The measure was spearheaded by Disney (which also contributed generously to the campaigns of the bill's major sponsors), but also had strong support from Time Warner and other media giants. Under the old copyright law, media corporations such as Disney and Time Warner/DC would have begun losing exclusive rights to their characters beginning in 2003, allowing anyone to use the characters without paying a cent in royalties or worrying about permission.

If the bill becomes law, look for another copyright battle to gear up somewhere around 2020 to extend the 95 years to somewhere in the neighborhood of 150 years.

'Mulan' marketing. In other Disney news, *Mulan*, one of Disney's better feature animation efforts in years, will hit video stores Feb. 2. The marketing of the film on home video marks Disney's fastest film-to-video turnaround yet for a theatrical release.

'X-Men' on a shoestring. According to a report in *The San Francisco Chronicle*, the budget for the upcoming X-Men film to be directed by **Brian Singer** will be in the neighborhood of $70 to $90 million. While this falls slightly short of the $100 million budget that blockbuster event movies usually garner, if anyone has demonstrated that he can do a lot with a little money, it's Singer. The X-Men movie is still in scripting stages with no word on casting or a production start.

'Micronauts' make mini-series. Also according to *The Hollywood Reporter*, Gribouille, a French-based CGI production company has signed to produce computer-generated effects for the upcoming *Micronauts* television series. According to the article, the show is still set to debut as a mini-series in early 1999, with an ongoing series picking up that fall.

Bay replaces Burton. Tim Burton is no longer attached to direct the potential Superman movie starring **Nicholas Cage**. Rumors place **Michael Bay** (*Armageddon*) in the front running for the job.

Caliber dreams of 'Level X.' Caliber Comics is currently in negotiations with interested parties concerning *Level X*, a story about dream research and the realm of the mysterious Level X in dreaming.

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JJM: Managing Editor John Jackson Miller

BWF: Projects Editor Brent Frankenhoff

JG: Associate Editor Joyce Greenholdt

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The best way to get in touch with us is by e-mail, fax, mail, and phone (in that order).

David L. Klees
5217 Ridgeview Dr.
Harrisburg, PA 17112

I am finally sending you my suggestions for Christmas gift giving, after all of these years. If we are giving comics for Christmas, let's give very best to show how really good comics can be:

1) Art Spiegelman's *Maus* (this one won a Pulitzer Prize)

2) Joe Kubert's *Fax from Sarajevo*

3) S. Clay Wilson's *Complete Checkered Demon* (a trade paperback just published by Last Gasp — for those who insist on comics for adults only)

4) John Stanley's *Little Lulu* (Russ Cochran-Gemstone is still selling five of the six hardcover slipcased sets published by Another Rainbow)

5) Any and all available reprints by Carl Barks (again, Gemstone is still selling some of the hardcovers and graphic-novel reprints, published by Another Rainbow)

The gift I would most like to receive for Christmas: I wish my children, ages 8 and 11, could meet Carl Barks (since they read all 30 hardcover volumes in Daddy's *Carl Barks Library* to pieces), as I had the good fortune to many years ago (October 1976 at Don Phelps' NewCon in Boston).

David Szymanski
23 Wex Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14211

In regards to the subject of war

Under his Avalon/ACG imprint, Roger Broughton has reprinted some of Glanzman's work in ***Combat Zone*** *#1.*

comics, it would be nice to do a feature on the work of Sam Glanzman.

Seeing limited publications featuring his work of late is a disservice to the great talent that Glanzman has displayed in his benchmark work on DC war comics and recently in the *Jonah Hex* mini-series (under the Vertigo imprint). Glanzman's powerful renderings are visually exciting and give an emotion to his storytelling on a par with Joe Kubert and John Severin.

I look forward to anything new that either ***CBG*** or comics publishers can provide from this wonderful talent.

John Wells
Box 119
708 Fourth St.
Batavia, IA 52533

As someone who's been researching DC continuity for nearly two decades now, I hope you won't mind a few random comments on your fabulous *Crisis* issue:

There were, in fact, five characters created in the 1940s who were killed in *Crisis:* the Earth-Two incarnations of Luthor (created in 1940), Robin (also 1940), and Green Arrow (1941), plus The Icicle (1947) and The Nighthawk (1948).

Your recounting of the Molder anecdote (in which George Pérez drew a villain into the story who was actually a disguised Elongated Man) missed the solution conceived for the *Crisis on Infinite Earths Index* (by either Mark Waid or Lou Mougin): The Molder in *Crisis* #10 was actually the Molder from *The Brave and The Bold* #76 in a new costume!

I suppose the unnamed foursome in *Superman* #50 (second series) could be the Kookie Quartet from the Inferior Five's Earth-Twelve.

Lady Quark, sad to say, has been dead for five years (since *L.E.G.I.O.N. 93* #62-63), expiring well before the launch of the *R.E.B.E.L.S.* series. For what it's worth, since Lady Quark's body was never recovered, an enterprising writer could revive her (though I'm not sure why he or she would bother).

While the Yolanda Montez incarnation of Wildcat was killed in *Eclipso,* the incident took place in #13, not the last issue (#18).

A John Constantine guest appear-

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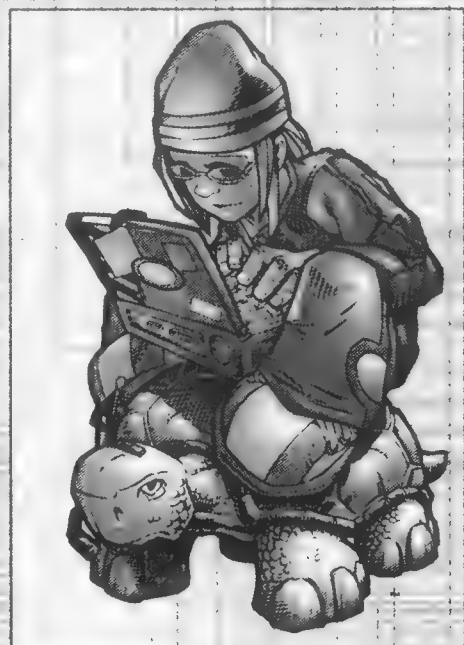

...then all of a sudden
you look up from what you're
doing and you realize,
"I'm part of that lifeSTYLE.
I makeup that CULTure.
Something is going on here."

the 'evolution' of comics.

"these things are pretty cool!"

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Oh, So? From Page 14

ance does not actually prove that Vertigo's *Shade the Changing Man* series is part of current DC continuity. That was just the Constantine of that particular Elseworld. Shade's tenure with the *Suicide Squad*, at last report, is still canonical.

In the early 1980s, when DC was trying to court an older teen-age audience, a *Brave and the Bold* letter column disavowed the *Super Friends* comics, apparently on the basis of the series' having been inspired by a children's cartoon. The fact that *Super Friends* was part of Earth-One continuity is irrefutable, as seen in such comics as *Superman Family* #190, *Justice League of America* #155, and *DC Comics Presents* #46, and confirmed for me years ago by both E. Nelson Bridwell and Julius Schwartz. (The mid-1980s *Super Powers* comic books, on the other hand, were irreconcilable with DC continuity and are non-canonical.)

While it's true that many old *Brave and Bold*s veered off from established lore (depicting Thomas and Martha Wayne as occultists or The Catwoman as a murderer), I've never understood the fuss over the existence of an Earth-One Wildcat in *B&B* and *Super-Team Family*. If there could be a Batman on Earth-One and Earth-Two, why couldn't there be two Wildcats?

I do dislike the fan-created term "Earth-B," which has been used in the past to slam comics creators whose names begin with "B." In my own research, I've used the alternative "Earth-32" to describe the world where non-canonical Earth-One stories took place. The designation comes from *Green Lantern* #32 (second series), where Hal Jordan visited a parallel Earth whose own Green Lantern was married to Carol Ferris.

I've played this numbers game with dozens of other alternate (and recurring) DC continuities, among them:

Earth-271, the world where DC characters coexist with the creations of other companies. It was first seen in the *Superman vs. The Amazing Spider-Man* tabloid but is named after the first DC/Marvel crossover in *Avengers* #85 and *Justice League of America* #87 (cover-dated February, 1971 — or 2/71).

Earth-992, home of all the recent animation-style stories, so named because *Batman: The Animated Series* went on the air in September 1992.

Once again, congratulations on a great issue. my compliments, in particular, to Fred Hembeck for his own segment, which certainly has to stand as the most original recounting of the JLA/JSA team-ups that I've ever read!

[We confess that a huge part of the fun for us editorially was getting to read the contributions that came in, especially including Fred's.

Wait till you see what ***CBG*** *has in store for Fred next!]*

Douglas Lipman
57 Taylor St., Apt. 320
San Francisco, CA 94102

Since I couldn't get an answer from the letters page at DC, let me try the only other source for fans to ask a question.

Everybody's seen the giant penny in the Batcave, right? I would like to know if the story of where it was obtained was ever printed. Anybody out there know? Thanks.

P.S. It could make a good *Legends of the Dark Knight*, if it has never been told.

[In 1976, the first volume of Michael L. Fleisher's ***The Encyclopedia of Comic Book Heroes*** *was published. Fleisher had read and taken notes from the complete comic-book adventures of each of a number of super-heroes. The result was an exhaustive compendium of information on each. (One of those characters whose volume was never published, by the way, was The Spirit. Seems like a natural project for Kitchen Sink to publish, doesn't it?)*

The first volume in the series was ***Batman****, and I crib shamelessly from the information therein:*

*The Batcave gradually evolved from an old barn (****Detective*** *#47) which eventually housed both the Batmobile and the Batplane. By 1942, there were references to a Hall of Trophies, and there were 897 separate trophies. In April 1950, the total reached 1,001. The illustration shown here is from* ***Batman*** *#48 (1948).*

The three most famous (and often-shown) trophies and the stories they come from are:

*• Life-size mechanical dinosaur from "Dinosaur Island!" (****Batman*** *#35, 1946)*

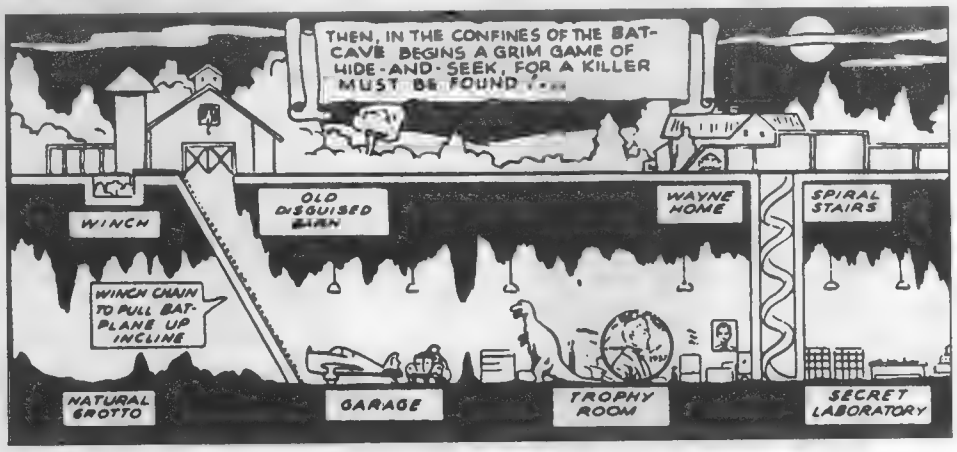
*• Giant Lincoln-head penny from "The Penny Plunderers!" (****World's Finest*** *#30, 1947)*

*• Huge Joker face from "The Thousand and One Trophies of Batman!" (****Detective*** *#158, 1950)]*

Gerard Jones

Now that over a year and a half has passed, the messages pointing out errors in my and Will Jacobs' revised *The Comic Book Heroes* have finally trickled to a stop. And now that we are considering pursuing a revised edition, it

(Continues on Page 18)



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'49f+ 12
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY
13f- 100

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JOURNEY INTO UNKNOWN WORLDS
12fr Krigstein 25
30g 24
41vg Everett 28
44g Davis 17
50g Davis, Crandall 15
JUMBO
64vg+ 50
116f+, but date stamp on cvr 35
135vg, 165vg+ 24
163g 12
JUNGLE
35fr 18
82f 45
158vg- 20
161vg+ 25
JUNGLE JIM
5f+, 6fvf ('50s) 6
JUSTICE TRAPS THE GUILTY
42vg+, 55vgf, 60Af-, 66f-, 67f-, 68f-, 75f 10
KAANGA
20vg+ 17
KATZENJAMMER KIDS
1vg ('47) 26
7g, 10g 6
KEN SHANNON
9vg/+ J. Cole 30
KENT BLAKE
1vg injury to eye, bondage, torture 50
12vg+ 16
KID COLT OUTLAW
11vg Origin 50
38vg Black Rider 20
45vg Black Rider 20
KID MONTANTA
17vf 12
23f+, 25f, 28fvf, 31fvf, 41vf, 44f, 48nm 5
KILLROY'S
19vg+ 11
26vg+ 8
38vg 7
KING COMICS
101vg+, 112vg 20
KRAZY KAT
2f 10
3vgf, 4vg+ 7
LAND OF THE LOST
▲ 2f+ (EC) 45
LATEST
▲ 2vf ('45) 30
LAUGH COMICS
23f Katy Keene 85
38vg+, 40vg+ Katy K. 21
42f Katy Keene 21
LAWBREAKERS ALWAYS LOSE
1vg Kurtzman 70
LIL ABNER
61vg (#1) Wolverton, Powell 55
64g (#3) 15
76vg+ 21
79vg+ Kurtzman 28
LITTLE AUDREY
39vg+, 40vg+ 7
32vg+ Casper 8
LITTLE DOT
34f 12
LITTLE MAX
3vg Little Dot 11
4vg, 6vg+, 7vg+ 8
LONE RIDER
9vg S13 18vg+ 10
LOONEY TUNES
23vg Walt Kelly 50
43f 35
82vg, 94vg, 97vg 8
88f 12
107f+, 114f 8
108vf 20
102vg+, 115vg, 118vg+, ..5

128vg, 130vg. 136vg+ 4
LOVE CONFESSIONS
45f+ Ward 20
LOVE LETTERS
1vg Ward, Gustavson 45
LOVE PROBLEMS & ADVICE 1vg+ Powell ...35
MAD
2vgf 250
21vg 65
MAGIC COMICS
58fvf 30
80vg+, 104vg 10
109f+ 16
MAN
25vg, 27vg 10
Marge's LITTLE LULU
44f 30
54vg, 56vg 18
61g, 65g, 70g 7
68vg 13
97vg, 104vg, 109vg, 110vg, 114vg+, 118vg+, 130vg, 146f 9
Summer Camp 1f+ 12
MARGIE
32vg Kurtzman 15
MARMADUKE MOUSE
4vg 10
18f, 20f 12
21vg, 22vg, 27vg 8
35f, 57f 10
MARVEL FAMILY
23f 50
MARVEL TALES
97vg+ Sun Girl; used in NY State document 150
98vg+ Krigstein, Everett .125
111vg Everett cvr, Maneely 70
139vg 32
149vg 27
MEET MISS PEPPER
5vg+ Kubert, Maurer 32
MICKEY FINN
1vg+ S50 2g 12
MICKEY MOUSE
FC 157g Classic 17
▲ FC 181f 35
FC 343f, 427fvf- 15
FC 362f-, 371vg+- 12
FC 387vg 10
FC 411vg 6
MIKE BARNETT
5f Market for Morphine ...50
MILITARY
19vg+f Crandall 140
26vg+ 100
MILLIE THE MODEL
22vg 15
MISS AMERICA
v3/4f 15
66f 10
MODERN
92vg+ Torchy 55
MOVIE LOVE
▲ 13vg Ronald Reagan photo cover/bio 40
MYSTERIES OF UNEXPLORED WORLDS
8gvg Ditko 25
MYSTERY TALES
3f 95
MYSTIC
59vg Krigstein 30
NATIONAL COMICS
46vg+ 35
NAVY ACTION
3g... S5 3f Everett 15
NELLIE THE NURSE
12 vg Kurtzman 18
24vg- 9
NEW FUNNIES
107vg 7
115vg+, 151f, 169f, 170f ..6
NEW ROMANCES
9f+ Colardo 16

OSWALD THE RABBIT
▲ FC 273f S10 388f 7
OUR GANG
11vg+ Barks 90
▲ 14vg- Barks 30
OUTER SPACE
21vg Ditko cover 16
OUTLAW KID
6vg 18
15vg Williamson 11
OUTLAWS
4g (DS) Orlando 12
10g (Star) LB Cole cvr 14
PARAMOUNT ANIMATED
3vg/+, 5vg/+ 16
PAROLE BREAKERS
1g 45
PATSY WALKER
Kurtzman in most
3vg+ 25
13vg, 14vg+, 20vg, 22vg 20
17f 30
19g, 21g 10
30g+ 8
PEP
79vg 20
PETER RABBIT
15f-, 16f- 8
PINOCCHIO
FC 92vg All Kelly 100
PIRACY
2f Williamson, Crandall 40
PLANET
31g 70
51vg 100
71vg, 73vg last issue 55
PLASTIC MAN
3g 85
8g- 45
12vg, 13vg/+ 80
15vg- 75
18g, but missing cf. Doesn't affect PM story 25
POGO
2f- 90
12vf 110
16vf- 80
Pogo Papers PB fvf 15
POGO PARADE 1vg+ 45
POLICE
43f- 90
44vg, 49vg 60
64vg+ 45
76vg 38
83f 55
POLICE AGAINST CRIME
1g Disbrow, Holingsworth; extreme violence 35
POPEYE
▲ 9vf, nm DOUBLE CVR! 110
48vg, 66vg Giant 10
52vg 9
POPULAR
84g, 102vg+, 108vg, 115vg, 125vg, 134vg, 136vg-, 137vg+, 138vg+, 140vg ..17
POPULAR ROMANCE
15f+ 12
16vf 20
POPULAR TEENAGERS
6vg+ LB Cole cvr, negligee panels 50
PORKY PIG
FC 260 f+vf- 22
FC 284 f 18
FC 330vgf-, 360f, 342f 8
FC 426vgf,30f 6
PRIZE COMICS
68f Palais cvr 30
PRIZE WESTERN
78vgf/f- Simon & Kirby, Severin, Bailey 35
96vg+ Severin/Elder 20
107g 8
112f- 20
RACKET SQUAD
1fr 20
4vg+, 17f 30
13vg Shuster 25
RAGGEDY ANN
▲ 3vf 60
REAL CLUE CRIME
6/12f Krigstein 25
REAL HEROES
8g- 8
REAL LIFE
20vg Schomburg cvr 20
58vg+f- Severin/Elder 20
RED MASK
50g 13
54g 10
RED RABBIT
3vg, 15vg+ 8

12f S11 13vg- 6
RINGO KID WESTERN
2g Black Rider 11
ROBIN HOOD & HIS MERRY MEN 31vg 11
ROMANTIC CONFESSIONS v2 #7vg .8
ROMANTIC MARRIAGE
23g- Baker cvr 10
ROUNDUP
1f Kiefer 45
SAD SACK
5vg+ 15
6fvf- 25
51g S2 29vg/+, 43f 5
▲ **SANDS OF THE SOUTH PACIFC** 1fvf ..60
SANTA CLAUS FUNNIES
FC 61vg Kelly 40
FC 91gvg Kelly 18
FC 128vg Kelly 24
FC 756vg Santa Claus 6
▲ 2g Kelly 15
SANTA CLAUS PARADE
2vgf/f- Dave Berg 35
SCOTLAND YARD
1vf 65
SHADOW COMICS
v5/1f- 100
SHEENA
15vg 50
17vg+ 55
SHERIFF OF TOMBSTONE
4vf S16 15vg 5
SHMOO (Al Capp's)
3vg 37
SHOCK SUSPENSTORIES
4vg SEDUCTION 55
▲ 5vg classic cover 50
SILLY TUNES
6vg 12
SIX GUN HEROES
21g 10 28vgf 15
SKY PILOT
11g Borth art 10
SLEEPING BEAUTY
FC 973vg & the Prince 20
FC 984vg Fairy Godmthrs ..15
SPACE ADVENTURES
16fvf Krigstein 70
24vg+f Ditko, Severin 50
SPACE BUSTERS
1g+ Krigstein 75
SPACEMAN
2gvg Speed Carter 50
SPACE WESTERN
41vg+ Saucer cvr 95
SPARKLE
5f 15
SPEED COMICS
44vg 70
SPORTS ACTION
4g S15 4vg 30
SPY FIGHTERS
1vg 50
15f Pakula 35
SPY HUNTERS
20vgf 20
SPY SMASHER
6vg Raboy 160
10g/+ Hitler cover 85
STEVE CANYON
FC 737vg , FC 939vg 8
▲ 100100 soft vf 12
STRAIGHT ARROW
8vg 30
13vg, S.A.'s Fury 119vg ..23
36vg+f drug story 20
40vg+ classic story 20
44vg+f 12
STRANGE FANTASY
4vf Rocket Man 150
STRANGE JOURNEY
1vgf 30
STRANGE SUSPENSE STORIES 17f Giordano ..45
STRANGE TALES
83vg Kirby, Ditko 30
88g 16
95f 40
100vg Kirby 30
STRANGE TALES OF THE UNUSUAL 2vg ..45
4vg+ 35
11gvg 20
STRANGE WORLD OF YOUR DREAMS
2vg S&K, Meskin 100
STRANGE WORLDS
1fr classic Kirby & Ditko; flying saucer issue 50
19g 25
SUPER CAR
1vg++f 40
SUPER COMICS
70g 13
SUPER DUCK
10vg 18
28vg+, 32vg, 34vg+,57vg+10
79g S3 78vg, 90vg 7
SUPER MAGICIAN
8gvg 40
v4/2 gvg interior tears ...15
▲ v5/7vg+f- 60
SUPER MOUSE
1vg+ Frazetta 55
34f 8
SUPER RABBIT
8vg 20

SUPERSNIPE
v4/8vg+ 45
SUSPENSE
6fr Everett, 16g 16
SUZIE
49f Katy Keene in all ..60
53vg+vgf S25 80vg 15
TALES FROM THE CRYPT 35vg+ 40
TALES OF HORROR
13g last issue 20
TALES OF THE MYSTERIOUS TRAVELLER
▲ 1vf 180
8vg+ Ditko 70
TALES OF SUSPENSE
12vg Crandall 48
26vg+ 40
32g Dr. Strange & Antmen prototypes 35
TALES TO ASTONISH
15vg Electro prototype 60
20vg 50
TARGET
v5/8 gvg 12
v6/3vg, 7/7vg 14
v7/11 vgf/f- 18
v8/11 g 6
TERRY & THE PIRATES
▲ Large Feat. 27fr ('41) ..20
FC 101f/+ 70
5vg, 7vg 17
13vg, 16vg 14
TERRYTOONS
20vg+ 30
45vg+ 25
74vg+ 15
TEXAS KID
3vg, 9vg S15 9g 7
TEX TAYLOR
7g- 12
THIS IS WAR
5f Toth 40
3-D COMICS
Glasses intact unless noted.
FUNNY 3-D 1vg 18
MIGHTY MOUSE 1g 1st ed 1st 3D Comic! 20
MIGHTY MOUSE 1f 1st ed no glasses. 50
MIGHTY MOUSE 2g pc out last pg, a/w vg+ 20
MIGHTY MOUSE 3vg 35
▲ 3D DOLLY 1vg+ 40
▲ 3 STOOGES 2f Kubert ..90
TOR 3f+ 30
WHACK 1vg no glasses 30
WHACK 2vg Kubert, Bing Crosby. Steve Canyon & Mighty Mouse parodies. 25
WHACK 3f, but stamped on every pg, Kubert 20
THREE LITTLE PIGS
FC 218vg+ (#1) 20
THRILLING
40frg Schomburg cvr 24
78vg+f 22
THRILLING CRIME CASES
49gvg classic LB Cole cvr ..60
TILLIE THE TOILER
55vg 20
TIMMY
FC 715vg (#1) 5
FC 923vf ...15 FC 923vg ...5
TIM TYLER
15vg+ 10
54f-(Harvey Comics Hits) ..20
TINY TOT COMICS
▲ 9vgf/f- 25
TIP TOP COMICS
131f 21
153nm 35
153vg, 154vg, 178vg 10
164fvf 20
T-MAN
7vg Crandall 35
14vg Hitler cover 35
19vg+ 20
TOM & JERRY
76vg S6 81vf 20
97vg, 141vg, 184f 4
TOMB OF TERROR
8vg+ Nostrand 40
9vg 35
TOPIX
▲ v6/8vg, v6/9vg 5
TOP SECRETS of FBI
8f- Powell 60
TOR
▲ 4f+vf- 30
TREASURE COMICS
11g+ Krigstein 15
12vg+ 17
TRUE AVIATION PICTURE STORIES
9vg+ 14
TRUE COMICS
24vg, 29vg 11
36vg S7 39g 4
TRUE CRIME
2g classic 175
TRUE LOVE PROBLEMS & ADVICE 1f+ 50
TWO-FISTED TALES
37vg S20 38frg 6
TWO GUN KID
22gvg 15
23vg+ 25
47vg+f-...S16 49g 6
50f 15
TWO GUN WESTERN
6vg ('51) 28

UNCANNY TALES
23vgf/f- Lawrence, Moldoff 50
30vg, 33vg 25
38vg+ Powell, 44vg+ 30
UNCLE $CROOGE
▲ 5vg 40
21vg+ 20
34vg 15
35g, 58g, 59g, 65g, 75vg, 81vg 8
68-69, 71-72 all vg 11
109vg, 131, 139, 142, 145, 147, 157, 167 all fvf 5
210vfnm, 213-214nm 8
UNCLE WIGGLY
FC 276vg 12
UNKNOWN WORLDS
23, 29, 34-35, 37-40, 45, 50, 54 all vg 6
UNUSUAL TALES
12f+ Ditko 45
29vg Ditko 20
VAULT OF HORROR
19vgf 80
31fr 17
WALT DISNEY'S COMICS & STORIES
▲ 47f Barks 90
▲ 50vgf/f Barks 75
▲ 52f Barks 55
53vg 40
▲ 54vg+ Barks 40
▲ 55vg/+ Barks 40
▲ 84vg+f 25
▲ 94vg+ Barks 20
▲ 109vg+, 137f Barks ..14
▲ 125fr, 136g Barks 5
▲ 126-127, 129-130, 132-133, 138 all vg, Barks 10
▲ 127fvf Barks 20
▲ 131vg+, 157f Barks ..10
134g 1st Beagle Boys 14
135gvg 7
167vg 5
185f, 197f, 236f 8
189g...S3 201vg 5
WAMBI
4vg Origin 35
6g 12
WAR COMICS
18vgf (Atlas) 18
24vgf S14 33vg/- 9
WARFRONT
13f Nostrand 15
15f, but small hole punch through book 5
WAR HEROES
3vgf ('43, Dell) 18
9f 20
10vg+ 15
WARPATH
1vg S18 1vf 45
WARTIME ROMANCES
10vg Baker cvr 20
WEB OF EVIL
2fr Jack Cole 30
8fr/g Cole 22
19g 16
WEB OF MYSTERY
2vg+ Bakerish art 55
4g Colan 25
23f, 27f Bakerish art 55
29f 35
WEIRD HORRORS
1vg+ Tuska 120
WEIRD TERROR
13vg severed head panel ..55
WESTERN CRIME BUSTERS 2f 45
WESTERNER
19g, 32gvg 6
25g Krigstein, 38vg+, 41vg+ 9
WESTERN LOVE
4f+fvf Severin/Elder 40
WESTERN OUTLAWS
(Atlas) 5vg+,10vg Everett .15
▲ 62vg+ 25
62vf 70
WESTERN ROUGH RIDERS
2vf 20
WESTERN TALES OF BLACK RIDER 29f 27
WHIZ
55vg+, 58vg+ 50
62f- 55
106vg+ 38
WILBUR
25fr Katy Keene 4
25f, but light pencil inside ..15
26f 20
30vg Katy 12
31vg Katy 10
32f+ 15
34vg+f- 12
52vg...7 59fr/g 3
WILD BOY
(Approved Comics 3f-) great Saunders bondage cover ...30
7g Kinstler 10
8vgf Saunders cover 30
14vgf Baker 30
WILD WESTERN
27vg+ 20
51vg+ 11
WINGS
29g- 28
70g, 108g, 110g+ 12
87vg 28
WITCHCRAFT
1vg Kubert 125

WITCHES TALES
26f 40
27g Powell 12
WONDER
9vg Schomburg cover 80
WOODY WOODPECKER
FC 169f (#1) 40
232, 264, 288 all vg+ ..10
431f 6
WORLD AROUND US
13vg+ LB Cole 10
27vg/+ Crandall, Torres ...10
▲ 30vg Crandall, Evans, Kirby, Torres 11
WORLD OF FANTASY
2g Williamson 25
WORLD OF SUSPENSE
5vg Everett 30
▲ **WORLD'S GREATEST STORIES**
1vg Alice in Wonderland ..35
WOW
▲ 24vf- 80
69vg+ 22
YOUNG LOVE
v2/5vg S&K 12
ZANE GREY
FC 222g S5 236vg ..10
FC 246vg, 270vg, 34f 6
ZIP JET
2vg 75

DC/Marvel

ADVENTURE
166vg+ 75
190f 90
193g, 200g- 30
194vg 65
198fr, 199fr/g 20
200vg 80
208fr/g, 238g 20
231vg, 235vg 35
237vg 1st Int. Vig Squad ..40
256gvg origin Green Arrow, Kirby art 60
258vg 20
267vg 3rd Legion 120
ALL AMERICAN MEN OF WAR 2f 125
51vg+ 20
89vg+, 93vg 8
ALL STAR
27vg JSA 225
40vg Toth 180
AMAZING ADULT FANTASY
7vg 90
8vg last 10¢er 80
▲15 appvf restoration by Matt Wilson 3500
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
▲1 app f restoration by Matt Wilson 1200
▲2 app vf restoration by Matt Wilson. ad pg loose ..500
5f 293
8f, 10f 190
8vg+ 140
9f 1st Elektro 210
14f 1st Gr.Goblin 500
▲15vg+1st Kraven 110
16f 110
27vg 5th Goblin 45
ATOM
1f 175
2vg S50 9vg 15
BOY COMMANDOES
34vf 100
BRAVE & THE BOLD
25vg 1st Suicide Squad ..60
28vg 1st JLA 650
41nmm 150
DALE EVANS
Toth art in all.
1vg+ 180
3vg+, 9vg+ 55
6vg, 7vg 50
DETECTIVE
45vg 1st Joker in Detective, 3rd appearance overall ...550
JIMMY WAKELY
1g Toth 90
8vg+, 11vg Toth 65
MYSTERY IN SPACE
2vg 140
▲ 3vg+ 120
7f Toth 120
▲ 53gvg 150
NEW ADVENTURES OF CHARLIE CHAN
all have very bright covers
1f all are scarce 175
2f 125
3f 100
4vg+, 6vg+ 85
5vg 70
SHOWCASE
▲ 14vg+ 4th SA Flash ..600
15vg 1st Space Ranger ...200
16vg 125
▲ 18f 2nd A. Strange ...200
▲ 19vgf 175
WONDER WOMAN
1 app. vgf 3500
WORLD'S FINEST
8vg+ Boy Commandoes begin; Simon art 275
26g S69 36g+ 60

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Oh, So? From Page 16

seemed like a good idea to list those errors in print, as both a sort of "errata" page for interested readers of the latest edition and a call for further corrections from readers who haven't yet contacted us, to help us make the next version less mistake-riddled.

Upon rereading the book, I've been pleasantly surprised: It's flawed, but it's good. It could use another couple of drafts to tighten and clarify it, but it succeeds in much of its aim: to be the first history of super-hero comics, not only as a genre, a pop-culture artifact, and an industry, but as a community. I wanted the book to be a social, cultural, and critical history — personal, emotional, idiosyncratic, but as honest as I could make it — and I think it succeeds, if not quite as well as I'd hoped, at least much better than I feared. Unfortunately, for complex and not very interesting reasons, the book had to be turned around much more quickly than we or anyone at Prima Publishing really wanted, so an embarrassing number of errors found their way into print. Fortunately, none of the errors so far discovered are big enough to make me want to change any significant part of the narrative or criticism.

In this letter I'll skip the many grammatical and typographical errors, assuming the readers can find the way through that thicket by themselves, and stick to the errors of fact. Many thanks to Mike Barr, Bob Beerbohm, Kurt Busiek, Mark Evanier, Gary Groth, Heidi MacDonald, Lou Mougin, Carl Potts, Roy Thomas, Martha Thomases, and all the others who've contacted me. From the top:

Page ix. In noting our sources, we neglected to mention that some quotes and anecdotes were taken from the many fan-press articles of Lou Mougin (especially for pp. 40-47 and 109-119) and from Mike Barr's article "The Madame and the Girls" from *WaP* (especially for pp. 123-125).

Page x. Some readers might assume that my erroneous ascription of the creation of coffee to Central America is part of some old grudge I'm carrying against the people of Ethiopia. In fact, I was drinking a mocha as I was typing the acknowledgments and got coffee and chocolate mixed up. Make it "the precolonial horticulturists of the Central African highlands."

Page xi. The phrase "... essentially a whole new book ..." combined with my first-person acknowledgments, has given some readers the impression that there's nothing left in this edition of Will's contribution. I was the guiding hand of the revision, but: the basic structure and viewpoint are still those of the original book that Will and I wrote together; there are huge chunks left from the first edition, including passages Will wrote himself; Will helped me with some of the new research for this edition; and he read nearly all the chapters as I rewrote them, commenting and correcting. This edition is more "mine" than the first, but it's still a collaboration.

Page 11. The marginal note in the balloon. "Published in August" should read, "Dated October."

Page 12. Illustration caption. A writer knows he's in trouble when a picture in the first chapter is signed by Joe Giella but the caption attributes the work to Murphy Anderson. Sorry, Mr. Giella.

Page 33. No trivia shall escape his sight: Lou Mougin reports that Alfred Bester insists he did not create Green Lantern's oath, despite Julius Schwartz' assertions to the contrary.

Page 45. Caption. The Grand Comics Database on the Internet credits Herb Castle with writing *Magnus* #17.

Pages 47, 109, and 125. The origin of *Creepy* is shrouded in conflicting reminiscences by the men involved, and Lou Mougin suggests that I may have overvalued the roles of Wally Wood and Joe Orlando, while neglecting that of writer Russ Jones. I'll try to unscramble the facts and give Jones his due in future printings.

Page 56. Caption. Roy Lichtenstein's name is misspelled. It's correct in the body text, though.

Page 59. Steve Ditko did, in fact, allow Marvel to publish his caricature in the first *Spider-Man Annual* and even drew it himself. That was the last time he allowed his likeness to appear in print, however.

Page 67. Roy Thomas had completed his fourth, not his first, year of teaching when hired by Mort Weisinger.

Pages 87 and 110. Dan Adkins has said that it was he, not Ditko, who thought of having Menthor die, although it was Ditko who executed the idea.

Page 111. Dave Kaler was a Floridian, not a Missourian.

Page 112. Nightshade was Captain Atom's sidekick, not his opponent.

Page 124 and 181. I'm told that Robert Kanigher didn't just "shift back to freelance writing" but left his editorial post after a nervous breakdown ...

Page 125. ... and that Steve Ditko's abrupt departure from *Hawk and Dove* and *Creeper* was necessitated by a bout of tuberculosis. Nonetheless — as far as I can tell — Ditko's dissatisfaction and his reasons for returning to Charlton instead of DC were as I described them.

Page 153. Gullivar Jones is misspelled.

Page 168. Tom Wolfe's name is misspelled.

Page 176. *Savage Sword of Conan* got accidentally lumped in with all the titles edited by Marv Wolfman. It was edited by Roy Thomas.

Page 211. Bob Beerbohm reports that he was only the co-chairman of Berkeley Con and shouldn't be given all the credit for pulling it together.

Page 218. Steve Gerber started working in animation before Marv Wolfman and Len Wein.

Page 231. When I first tackled this rewrite, I told friends that I prayed I'd get everything right, but that I knew that publication would reveal one blunder so bone-headed that I'd want to shrivel up and die. Well, here it is: The co-creator and artist of *Sabre* — and thus, in a sense, one of the co-creators of the direct market — was not Billy Graham but Paul Gulacy. Considering that I knew this and that I've worked with Paul and even consider him something of a pal — well, as I wrote to him, "my only excuse is that I'm a ****in' moron." And, as he wrote back, "Amen to that."

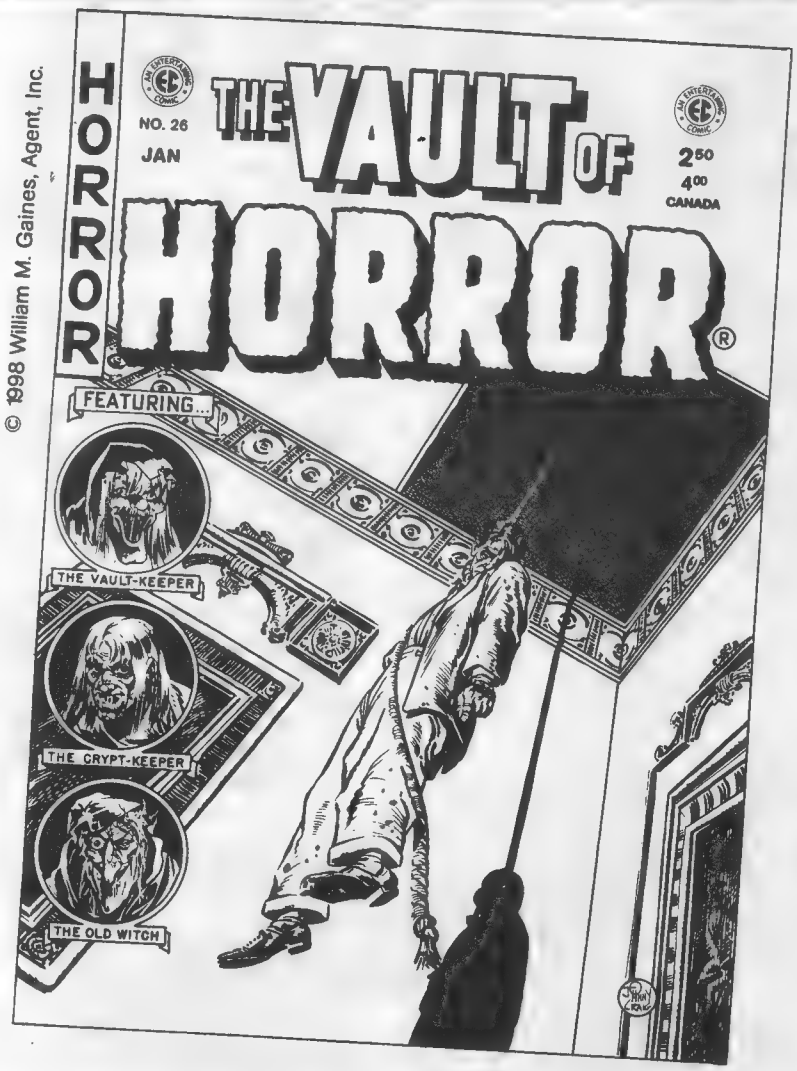
Page 247. Frank Miller came from Vermont, not New Hampshire.

Page 256. Mark Evanier tells me that Dan

(Continues on Page 20)

HANG IN THERE!

CBG Customer Service Award - 1998



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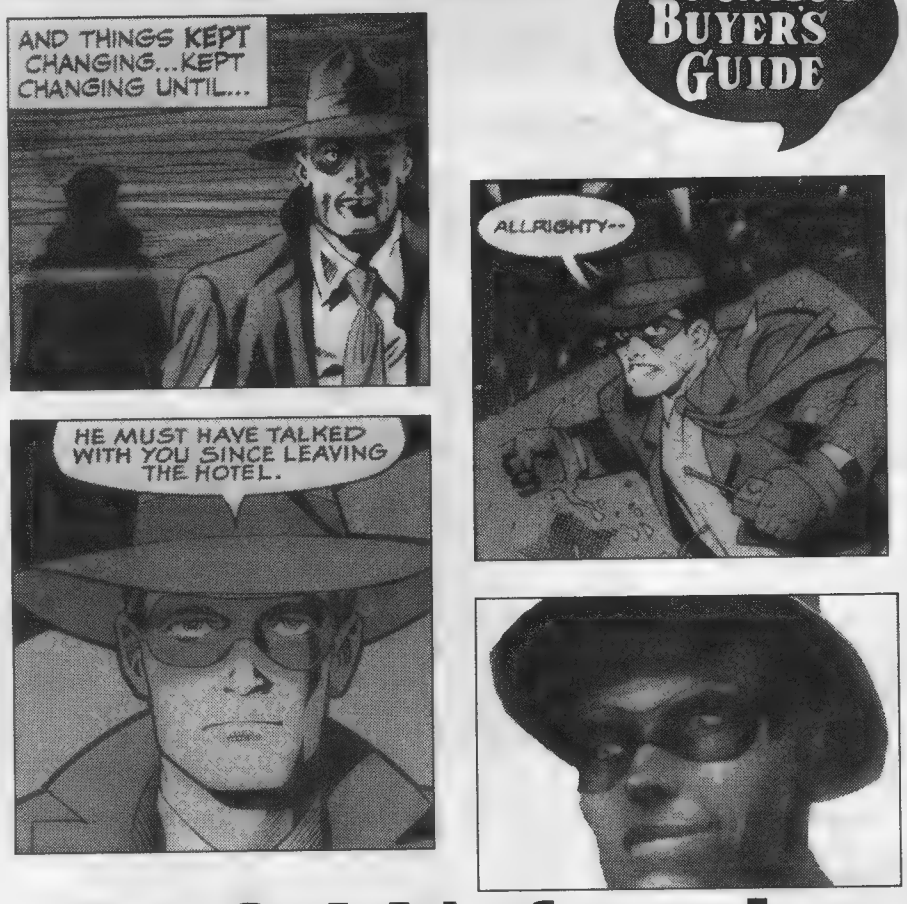

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Oh, So?

From Page 18

Spiegle was already attached to *Blackhawk* before he got involved.

Page 260. I should have specified that Jim Starlin's "The Computers That Ate Metropolis" was not part of the comic book, *per se*, but a Radio Shack insert.

Page 264. It was the ministry that Mike Barr nearly joined, not the priesthood. Mike isn't a Catholic; he's a Protestant.

Page 277. Shogakukan is misspelled.

Page 285 and 307. Apparently, Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons were never "given the Charlton heroes by DC." They submitted a proposal for the characters that impressed DC editorial but was rejected because it didn't open the way to ongoing series. They were encouraged to rework the proposal into an original creation, which became *Watchmen.*

Page 286. When I wrote that DC's projected romance line never happened, I neglected *Angel Love.* But, then, who didn't?

Page 294. I wrote that every DC title tied into *Crisis on Infinite Earths,* but Mike Barr reminds me, with pride, that *Batman and the Outsiders* never did.

Page 299. Most of these errors are simply embarrassing, but there are a few that cause me real pain. Pouring out memories of my early, tumultuous days in fandom swept me back into the mentality of those days; Chapter 41, in particular, reads like something from a fever dream, and, on rereading it, I find the febrility of my prose and my generalizations ("Shooter was the enemy now, and nothing he did would ever change that") to be both goofy and yet somehow appropriate. Unfortunately, in allowing myself to be sucked uncritically into those old passions, I also passed some old misconceptions unexamined to the page. My assertion that Gary Groth and Mark Evanier disliked each other is simply wrong. My point, that people who disliked each other banded together in defense of Jack Kirby, is true. But Gary and Mark are not examples of that, and I apologize to both of them.

On the same page, I credited Dave Olbrich with cruising the conventions with a pro-Kirby petition but didn't mention that the petition was first mailed to freelancers from the Fantagraphics offices.

Page 305. Olbrich wasn't hired away from Fantagraphics by Scott Rosenberg. In fact, he had already quit Fantagraphics in order to take a job with Round Table Pizza before Rosenberg came calling. Kind of shows you where comics stand in the grand scheme of things, doesn't it?

Page 310. Mike Barr says that he didn't quit DC but was fired by Dick Giordano for writing a letter to *The Comics Journal* criticizing DC's failure to acknowledge Bill Finger's contribution to the creation of Batman.

Page 311. "Some ex-Fantagraphics employees said ..." The readers I've talked to generally interpreted this as it was intended — not as an accusation but simply as an example of the sort of gossip that constituted the "fights and fissures" of the "loudest and most exciting conversation" in the comics business — but it still seems to call for further explication: I have no reason to believe there was mishandling. The mere existence of the story reveals a great deal about this deranged field of ours, though.

Page 312. Mike Thibodeaux's name is not Art.

Page 318. Although Liz Schiller, Anina Bennett, "and others like them" (as if there could be anyone like Liz or Anina) played roles in getting Friends of Lulu going, it was actually Heidi MacDonald herself who started it all.

Page 319. Todd McFarlane is from Western, not Eastern, Canada.

Page 328. I called Alan Davis "the sort of discovery DC would have made a few years earlier." To which Mike Barr responds, "DC did discover him a few years earlier. His first USA series was *Batman and the Outsiders* ... then we did *Detective* for a few months." Then he got popular and joined the exodus to Marvel.

Pages 328 and 364. Ron Perelman's name is misspelled.

Page 332. Although it's true that *Arkham Asylum* was "the most commercially ambitious project a comics publisher had ever undertaken," it should be noted that Mike Barr and Jerry Bingham's *Batman: Son of the Demon,* from late 1987, was DC's first hardcover book and its first graphic novel featuring an established character. Its success opened the door to packages like *Arkham.*

Page 347. Caption. Obviously the argument of this caption isn't well supported by the accompanying illustration. I'd originally planned to use a Rob Liefeld drawing of a hero blowing up somebody's head, but Rob refused permission. Todd was more cooperative, which helped the publisher preserve the layout. Unfortunately, I was unable to get the caption rewritten in time.

Page 352. Tiny typos that twist the telling: Superman and Lois became engaged in 1990, not 1992.

Pages 369, caption, **and 370.** *Understanding Comics* was co-published by Harper Collins, not Viking.

Pages 375-400. There are tons of errors in the index, but I've discovered two that might actually prevent someone from finding a reference: Mike Grell is listed under "Gress," and Ed Herron under "Gerron." Note also that the "Academy of Arts and Sciences" should be "Academy of Comic Book Arts and Sciences" and that "Sid" Brodsky should be "Sol." A reference to Jack Abel on page 141 is missing, as is one to Gary Groth on page 117. Scott McCloud is listed twice; the listing on page 388 appears complete, while that on 390 is not.

I should note that there are omissions that don't lend themselves to easy page location. I wish, for instance, that I'd mentioned Andy Mangels' reportage on gays in comics, Mike Barr's *Maze Agency,* Howard Chaykin's *Time2,* and Innovation Comics; I wish I'd read Gary Groth's interview with Gil Kane in *The Comics Journal* before I wrote anything about either man.

The discovery of such omissions make me especially desirous of another edition. Feel free not only to point out factual errors and argue critical points but to suggest additions, as well.

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BY FRED HEMBECK

PRONUNCIATION.

WHEN YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE KID READING COMICS, IT CAN BE THE *BANE* OF YOUR EXISTENCE, AND, BROTHER, I'M HERE TO TELL YOU THAT I WAS *NO* EXCEPTION!

BACK IN 1961, I WAS A MERE EIGHT YEARS OF AGE WHEN I WAS INTRODUCED TO THE SUPERMAN FAMILY OF TITLES. CERTAINLY, I HAD *NO* PROBLEM WITH THE LIKES OF LOIS LANE AND JIMMY OLSEN, BUT ONCE I GOT PAST LEX LUTHOR, IT WAS *ROUGH SLEDDING* WITH THE MAN OF STEEL'S ROGUES' GALLERY.

PRIME OFFENDER? Uh huh-- WHO *ELSE*? MR. MXYZPTLK. NOW, IN FAIRNESS TO ME, *NO* ONE I KNEW COULD PRONOUNCE *THIS* ONE, AND IF THE PROPER PRONUNCIATION *HAD* BEEN INDICATED WITHIN A DC COMIC AT THAT TIME, *WE* WEREN'T AWARE OF IT. NOPE, WITH THAT PESKY IMP FROM THE FIFTH DIMENSION, ONE HAD TO BE *CREATIVE*.

MY SOLUTION? MR. MULTI-PLEX. *YEARS* AHEAD OF MY TIME, I SOMEHOW FORESAW THE DAY WHEN A DOZEN MOVIE THEATERS WOULD BE HOUSED IN A SINGLE BUILDING, AND IF *THAT* ISN'T MAGIC, I ASK YOU, WHAT *IS*? REGRETTABLY, WHEN ONE SAYS "CINEMA SIX" BACKWARDS, THESE GLORIFIED SHOEBOXES *DON'T* TRANSFORM INTO A SINGLE MAGNIFICENT ART-DECO FILM PALACE FOR NINETY DAYS...

GETTING *THAT* ONE WRONG MIGHT'VE BEEN UNDERSTANDABLE, BUT, HEY-- *ANYBODY* REMEMBER THAT BALD, GREEN-SKINNED ALIEN (LATER REVEALED TO BE A SENTIENT COMPUTER) WHO SHRUNK THE KRYPTONIAN CITY OF KANDOR DOWN SO AS TO FIT INSIDE A BOTTLE? THAT'S *RIGHT*-- I'M TALKIN' 'BOOT *BRAINIAC*! (THANK *YOU*, MR. SILVER AGE.)

SEEMS *SIMPLE* ENOUGH, RIGHT? *NOT* FOR LI'L FREDDY, Y'KNOW WHAT I PERSISTED IN CALLING HIM-- AT LEAST, *UNTIL* MY UNIQUE VERSION CROSSED MY LIPS DURING A CONVERSATION WITH A FELLOW SUPERMAN ENTHUSIAST AND I WAS THOROUGHLY *AND* REPEATEDLY *RIDICULED*? BRA-ZISK-CO. THAT'S RIGHT. BRA-ZISK-CO. MY BUDDY HAD *NO* IDEA *WHO* I WAS TALKING ABOUT, AND WHY *SHOULD* HE? I *STILL* CAN'T FIGURE OUT *HOW* I CAME UP WITH *THAT* ONE.

ABOUT A YEAR LATER, I PICKED UP MY FIRST MARVEL COMIC, *FANTASTIC FOUR* #4, FEATURING THE RETURN OF PRINCE NAMOR. I HONESTLY DON'T RECALL IF I MADE THE *COMMON* MISTAKE OF INTERPRETING OL' FISH FACE'S NAME AS SUB-MARREENER, BUT APPARENTLY, I WAS UNFAMILIAR ENOUGH WITH *ONE* OF THE WORDS THAT COMPOSED JOHNNY STORM'S COSTUMED IDENTITY THAT I MADE A VERY *UNCOMMON* MISTAKE.

THERE THEY WERE, THE FABULOUS FANTASTIC FOUR: MR. FANTASTIC, INVISIBLE GIRL, THE THING, AND, OF COURSE, THE HUMAN *TOUCH*! AND A VERY, VERY *HOT* TOUCH IT WAS, INDEED, IF ALL THAT *FLAME* WAS ANY INDICATION! LUCKILY, EVEN I WAS BRIGHT ENOUGH TO KNOW *THAT* DIDN'T MAKE MUCH *SENSE*, SO, BEFORE THE NEXT ISSUE HIT THE STANDS, I LEARNED *WHAT* A TORCH *WAS* AND *HOW* TO SAY IT. WHO SAYS COMICS AREN'T EDUCATIONAL??

ONE MISTAKE THAT PERSISTED IN MY MIND FOR A WHILE, ONE THAT I *DIDN'T* BOTHER TO CORRECT EVEN *AFTER* I REALIZED MY ERROR, CONCERNED A MEMBER OF THE *BLACKHAWKS*. HE WAS THE *BIGGEST* OF THE BUNCH, AND HE HAD A *CHIN* THAT WOULD MAKE *JAY LENO* GASP. HE WAS THE SWEDISH MEMBER OF THE SQUADRON, AND "YUMPIN' YIMINEY" WAS HIS CATCH PHRASE. YES, HE WAS OLAF, BUT TO *ME* HE WAS, AND *ALWAYS* WILL BE, *OAF*. Y'KNOW, SOMEHOW, I NEVER COULD MUSTER MUCH *RESPECT* FOR THE BIG LUG...

YOU'RE *SUPPOSED* TO GET SMARTER WHEN YOU GET OLDER, BUT I'M HERE TO PROVE ONCE AND FOR ALL *THAT*'S JUST A MYTH. Y'SEE, GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL JUST AS JACK KIRBY'S *NEW GODS* BURST ONTO THE SCENE, I, FOR MONTHS ON END, SILENTLY READ THE MAIN CHARACTERS *NOMDE KIRBY* AS ORE-EE-ON, THIS *DESPITE* A STORY IN WHICH HE TAKES ON A HUMAN GUISE AS THE MORE *CONVENTIONALLY* SPELLED "O'RYANN"!

PERHAPS THE *DUMBEST* WAS ALSO THE *SUBTLEST*. IT WAS A WINNING COMBINATION OF MISSPELLING *AND* MISPRONUNCIATION, AND LONG BEFORE *ANYBODY* PROOFREAD THESE THINGS (*HI*, MAGGIE!), I DID A STRIP FOR THE OLD BUYER'S GUIDE (SUBSEQUENTLY REPRINTED IN A COLLECTION OF MY WORK, GOOF INTACT) EXTOLLING THE MERITS OF RALPH DIBNY'S STRETCHABLE ALTER EGO, *REPEATEDLY* REFERRING TO HIM IN PRINT AS THE *EN*LONGATED MAN!

THAT'S THE WAY I'D ALWAYS SAID IT-- *EN*-LONGATED. IT WASN'T UNTIL SOMEONE TOOK ME ASIDE-- I DON'T REMEMBER *WHO*, BUT IT WAS A *BRAVE* THING TO DO-- AND SAID, "FRED, IT'S *E*-LONGATED MAN, *NOT* EN-LONGATED MAN! *E*-LONGATED!!" I WAS *STUNNED*, BUT FOREVER INDEBTED TO THIS HELPFUL SOUL FOR ENHANCING MY KNOWLEDGE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE!

SO TO THOSE FOLKS WHO DREAMT UP NAMES LIKE *SUPERMAN*, *BATMAN*, *the SAVAGE DRAGON*, *ARCHIE*, *SPAWN* AND THE LIKE, I *THANK YOU*. AFTER ALL, KEEPING IT SIMPLE AIN'T SUCH A *BAD* THING! HECK, I BEEN SIMPLE MOSTA ME LIFE!?..

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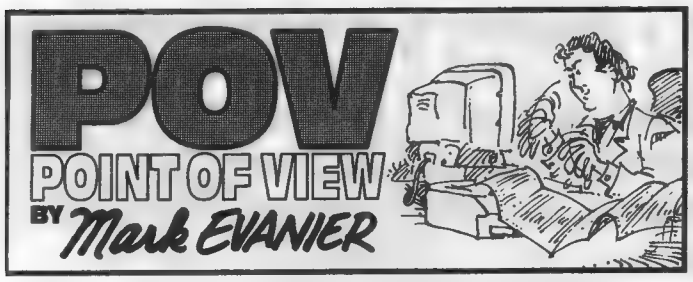


How many pages can an artist do in a day?

Drawing comic books is hard work. It may not be as brutal as laying flagstone patios in the Mojave or delivering weight-training machines to loft apartments — but those pages don't draw themselves. Someone has to sit there and move the pencil or pen or brush.

We forget how much effort it involves because we usually don't see it. If we see artists drawing at all, it's at conventions, knocking out quick sketches, *sans* backgrounds, usually employing stock poses.

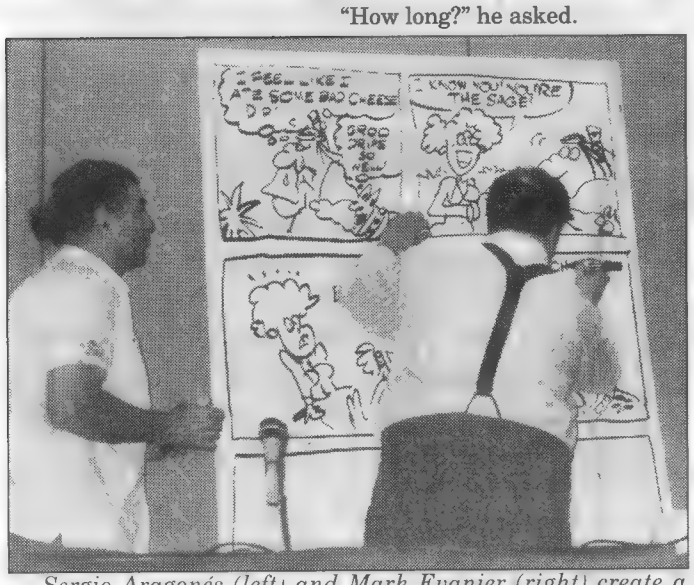
"My guess is that the average comic-book artist takes 3-4 hours to pencil a page and maybe 2-3 hours to ink one."

Sergio Aragonés and I used to do a stunt at cons. We'd take a six-foot-tall piece of board and some markers and we'd attempt to whip out a crude, six-panel *Groo* page in under five minutes. Sergio would be drawing panel 2 while I was scrawling dialogue in panel 1; then I'd climb over him and letter in panel 4 while he did panel 3 and so on. The end product was crude and simple — no backgrounds, one or two quick figures per panel — but, for an instant comics page, it wasn't bad. We did this around a dozen times and I think we finally got our time down to something like three minutes and 27 seconds.

Moments after we set that record — which, somehow, the Guinness people have missed — I noticed one fan writing in the air with a finger, doing the math in his head: *"Three minutes and 27 seconds — times 23 pages in an issue —"*

I interrupted his calculations: "It takes us a little longer than that to do the pages in the comic books."

"How long?" he asked.



Sergio Aragonés (left) and Mark Evanier (right) create a Groo page in just a few minutes as part of a convention panel.
– Photo by Brian Saner-Lamken

Sergio and I weren't sure, so, the next issue we did, I had him clock some pages. They varied a lot, depending on whether there were crowd scenes or elaborate architecture. The low was 90 minutes; the high was a little under four hours. (This is just Sergio's time drawing. It doesn't include the time Stan Sakai spends lettering a page, the time Tom Luth spends coloring that page, or the time I spend doing whatever it is I do on that page.)

So figure a 23-page story might have 50-60 Aragonés hours in it — and he's among the fastest we have. My guess is that the average comic-book artist takes 3-4 hours to pencil a page and maybe 2-3 hours to ink one.

But those are just ballpark stats. Some artists take less and some take a lot more. And some pages can take a lot longer than others. A top inker once showed me a chart he'd kept on his pace when he inked various pencillers. He could ink one artist's pencil art in under two hours a page, while another consistently took a minimum of 3.5 hours apiece.

Some have cited Jack Kirby as the fastest-ever artist in comics history — and the huge pile of pages he produced during his career would certainly steer anyone towards that conclusion.

Jack was fast — no doubt about it. But I think "fast" misses the point. His staggering lifetime output was more a result of his commitment to park himself at the drawing board for 12 to 16 hours a day, seven days a week, for several decades. He produced twice as much as some artists because he worked twice as hard.

I never knew anyone to labor like Jack. Around about 2:00 every afternoon, he would sit down at a surprisingly shabby drawing table — the same one for years. 90% of the aspiring artists who made pilgrimages to Kirby for inspiration probably drew on better tables, with better equipment. But it was not frugality that caused him to haul that table across country, from residence to residence, long after anyone else would have long since tossed it and bought another. Rather, when you spend that many hours at the board, it becomes an old friend ... like the straight-backed kitchen chair — no padding, no swivel — in which he sat as he worked.

He'd start in mid-afternoon and work straight into the evening, deep into the night, pausing only for a bite of dinner and to spend a few moments with his family. Only close to dawn would he call it a night — or day, as the case may be.

It was even worse in the early years of the Marvel super-heroes, circa 1961-1965. I used to hear his wife Roz speak in horror of when Jack had to produce at an even more ungodly pace. By any measure, it was a super-human feat that he got the work done at all, let alone that it was as good as it was.

Back then, Jack worked even longer hours in a dark, cramped basement cubicle which he called "The Dungeon." There were no windows, and, when he became engrossed in the work, he often lost all track of time. Roz would wake up at 7 a.m., realize that Jack had never joined her in bed, and find him in The Dungeon, finishing his fifth page in one sitting. (By contrast, another artist producing work as detailed as Kirby's might have struggled to manage three a day.)

In what we laughingly call my career, I've worked with some of the fastest artists in comics. Jack was one. Dan Spiegle is another. Pat Boyette is yet another. Mike Sekowsky drew faster than any of them — and Sergio Aragonés makes all these boys look like The Six Million Dollar Man in one of those slow-mo action scenes. The two fastest artists I've ever worked with were two "funny animal" guys — Owen Fitzgerald and Jack Manning.

All these folks had two things in common, above and beyond their speed. One was that they all worked very hard. They had that ability/willingness to sit at the board all day and/or all night. (In Spiegle's case, he used to prefer to be seated at the board when he pencilled but to ink at an easel while standing up. A year or two ago, he started to ink sitting down.)

And the other thing they had in common was that they all did very good work. Some of the best comics ever produced have been those created at a rapid clip.

Screenwriter William Goldman wrote in his book *Adventures in the Screen Trade*, "I think screenplays should be written with as much speed as possible — and with even more deliberation ... the reasoning (if you can call it that) is, I believe somehow, that extra energy translates itself to the page, and from there to the reader."

I don't completely agree with Mr. Goldman. To me, any advice that suggests creative people ought to all work the same way presupposes they all have the same skills and proclivities. It's like saying, "I think everyone should write with a Dixon Ticonderoga #2 medium-soft lead pencil."

I do believe, however, he's on to something. There is a certain dynamism in some (not all) rapidly created comics. Often, it is the magic of a talented creator who, because he's working under the gun, is operating from the gut. If you don't get what I'm talking about, ask anyone in any medium who holds a title akin to Art Director. He or she will gladly tell you of the many times the following scenario occurs ...

An artist, engaged to do a big, fancy illustration will bang out a quick, rough sketch. Everyone loves something wonderful that's in the rough and it's OK'd — but that "something wonderful" is absent when the artist takes his or her time and does the final rendering. There have been times when they elect to print the rough instead.

Just as it's possible to not spend enough time writing a script or drawing a drawing, it is sometimes also possible to spend too much time — to work something to death, to stiffen up, to add clutter, to lose impact. Wally Wood used to say of his superb E.C. work that he added too much detail; that almost every page was better a half-hour before he declared it "finished."

Some of my all-time favorite comics were done by creators who didn't have the leisure of taking their time. Case in point: There was a period when Steve Ditko was pencilling and inking 20 pages of *Spider-Man* per month, plus 10 of *Dr. Strange*, plus covers and the occasional *Spider-Man Annual*. That's 35-40 pages in one month — plus he was plotting or co-plotting the stories, and many of those pages had more drawing on them than some artists today put on two or three pages. It was all wonderful.

Or take Al Feldstein editing/writing the E.C. comics — or Will Eisner, having to get an entire *Spirit* section completed, each and every week — or almost anything by Joe Kubert or John Buscema or Jesse Marsh or Jack Davis or a dozen others I could cite. Most of my favorite comic-book writers have displayed a sim-

(Continues on Page 32)

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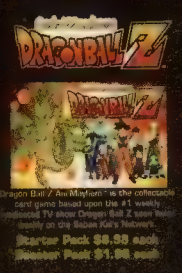

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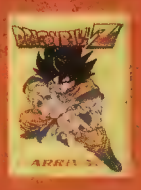

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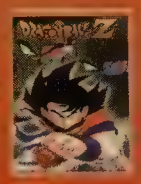

DRAGONBALLZ #5
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DRAGONBALLZ #6
IMMORTALS

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DRAGONBALLZ #9
DEPARTURE

DRAGONBALLZ #10
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DRAGONBALLZ #11
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THE NEW PARADE — INTO OBSCURITY

A personal look back — and ahead — at war comics

By Doug Murray

It's Veterans Day. What? You don't believe me? Check your calendar — go on, I'll wait. Yep, it's a holiday all right. But is it a special one? Should you have sent cards? Bought gifts?

No. It's not that kind of day. It's something else — or, at least, it was. These days, it's just another excuse for a sale at the mall, another day off from school or work, another lazy day with no mail delivery, no banking, and no stock market ups and downs to worry about.

A few years ago, however, it would have been different. Then, Veterans Day (like most of our holidays) had a purpose — an important purpose: to remember those who had fought for their country and to encourage others to do the same, if necessary.

That sort of thing was a good idea. The United States, perhaps more than any other country, was born out of the fires of war, beginning with the winning of our freedom from England in the Revolutionary War. When we had "grown" enough to ignore George Washington's warnings about "entangling foreign alliances," we fought in a few more wars — first a repeat with the British, followed by a Civil War that determined what freedom actually meant, and then a quick and dirty conflict with the Spanish.

Later we got pulled into what was originally called "The War to End All Wars," but it wasn't. Then — but this is all familiar stuff, right? It's history. Taught in classrooms around the country.

At least, that's the way it used to be.

A day to think. Veterans Day was designed to make people think about that history. Gave them a day to show their respect and appreciation for those who had stood (as the long-forgotten fourth stanza of our National Anthem puts it) "Between their loved homes and the war's desolation." It was a time when parades were held around the nation, each trying to outdo the other in numbers of marchers, volume of bands, quantities of flags.

It was a time of pride.

But, like history and that fourth stanza of "The Star Spangled Banner," that pride was lost a long time ago. Submerged under the acquisitive urge that seems to be all that currently drives the people of this country. Pushed aside by those who believe that parades — and veterans — are merely relics of a past that is best forgotten.

Why is that? Why have the people of America chosen to suppress the pride of those who fought for us? Why have we canceled our parades, pushed our veterans into history books that are opened far too rarely?

And, more to our point, why have comic books, those four-color histories that for so many years told stories of courage and honor in warfare, disappeared with the parades and the flags — and the pride in patriotism?

The answer. To answer that we have to go back into the past. To the years when pride did exist. When long columns of uniformed and proud men marched down the boulevards of this country — and not just on Veterans Day.

Of course, that was many years, indeed, several decades ago. Before the Great Society that changed so many long-held beliefs and customs. Before the Vietnam War that caused us to question so many things we had always thought of as obviously true and right.

We have to return to a time that was simpler — and happier. A time when comic books only cost a dime and the resident of the White House was respected throughout the land.

1951. That was a pretty good year, and, while it's ancient history for many of those reading these words, it's close enough for several others, including me, to remember it. So let's go back. All we really need is the built-in time machine that all of us are born with. For me and those of my generation, it's called memory. For the rest of you, it's referred to as imagination.

It's easy, really. Just close your eyes for a moment and … Wow! It *is* a different world! Look at those houses! Real wood sides, carefully painted and trimmed — not a bit of vinyl siding in sight. And the roofs! No satellite dishes and hardly any TV antennas! Did anyone have cable? And look at those cars! How can they move with all that chrome?

But we're not here for that kind of sight-seeing. Perhaps we can do that some other time. For now, let's find the comics. Maybe up the block there, where all the stores seem to be.

Hmm. It's not quite as easy as it will be in the '90s, is it? No comics stores yet. They won't be around until the '70s. Nope. We've got to find another icon of these simpler days. The corner candy store. There should be one right about — yes!

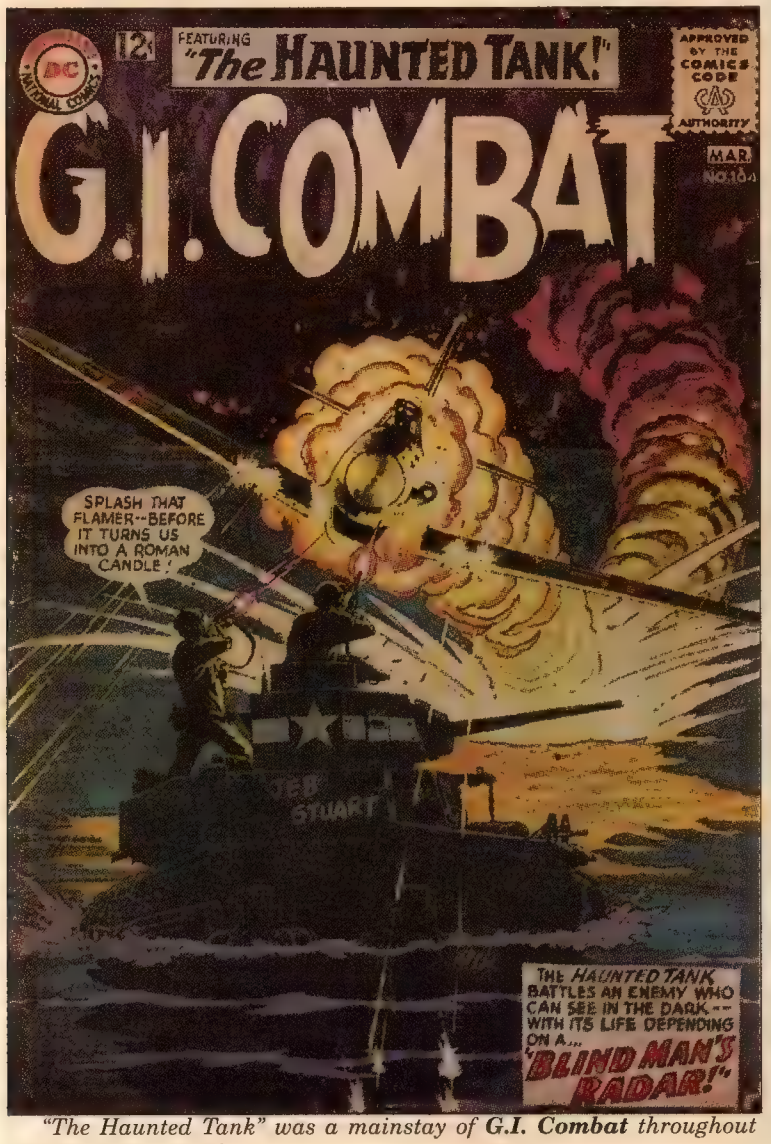
There it is!

Nice, isn't it? Lots of polished marble (at least it looks like marble) and chrome. That soda "bar" looks inviting, with all those round-topped stools in front. I remember sitting on those, sipping a real ice cream soda and spinning slowly around —

But enough of my memories — let's find the comic books. They should be up front, where the newsstand is. Over there, behind the rack of newspapers on that tall wooden display. No. Not up there. You've got to look lower — at a kid's eye level.

There they are! The comics! Dozens, no, *scores* of them — and you'll note that, unlike the present, they don't all feature super-heroes. Not in this decade. This is a period of diversity. A time when many genres — mysteries, romance, aviation, horror — flourish and share available space with the super-heroes. It's an explosion of color. A sensory overload of choices. There is literally, something for every-

(Continues on Page 28)



"The Haunted Tank" was a mainstay of ***G.I. Combat*** *throughout most of its run at DC.*

Murray provided an overview of the entire Vietnam war in ***The 'Nam*** *#7. The flags in the background represented the countries that participated in the conflict over the years.*

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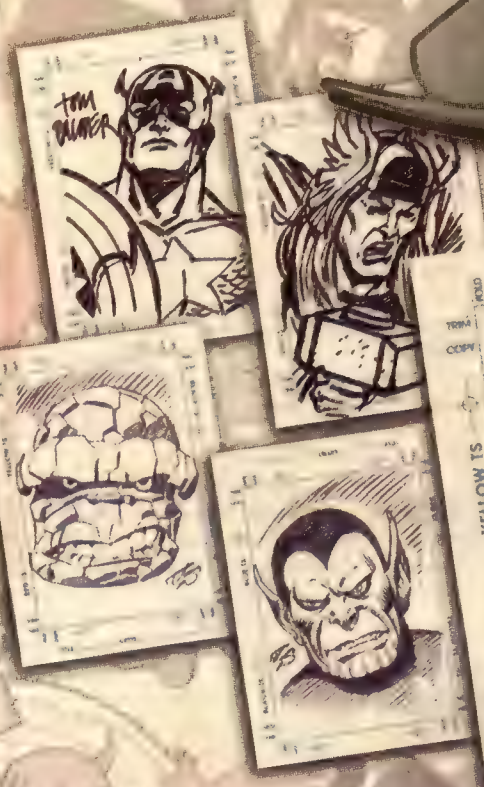

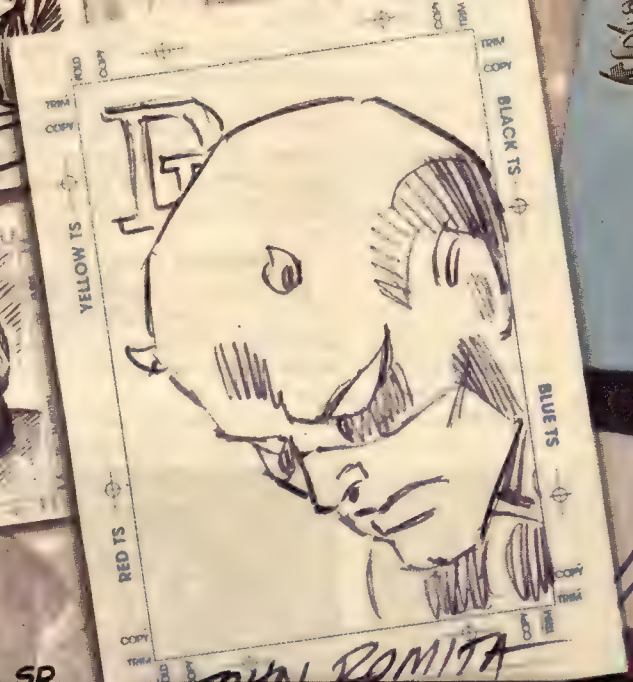

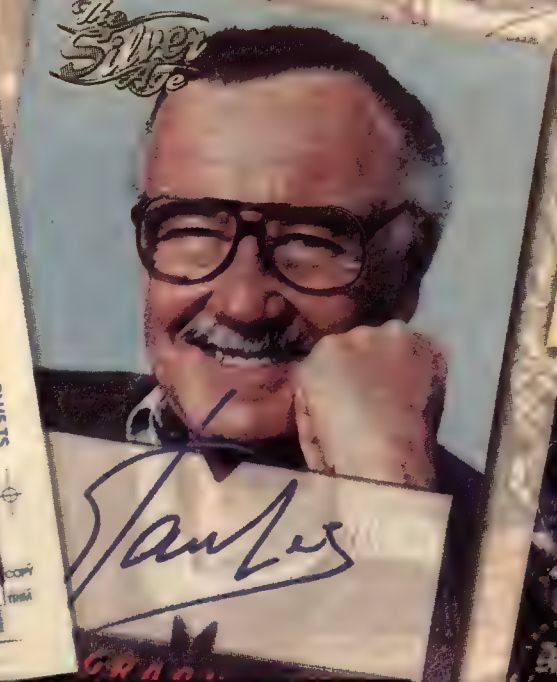

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PARADE

(From Page 26)

body:

Action, Adventure, Detective, Jungle ...

And the war comics. *Air Ace, Battle Action, Battle Cry, Battle Stories, G.I. Combat, Our Army at War ...*

There are dozens — and that really shouldn't be a surprise. For the people of this time (how long ago it seems), the war was a major event. Most of the men living in the early '50s had fought in the war just past and, perhaps more importantly, so had most of the comic-book creators.

Look at Jack Kirby, perhaps the most famous and most influential artist in the history of comics. Jack and his partner, Joe Simon, had done hundreds of comic stories in the late '30s and early '40s, including the Nazi-busting Captain America. Still, when they were called into the Army, they were prepared to go and served with honor and distinction.

Harvey Kurtzman had also had war experiences — although they were restricted to the "dishwasher's platoon," as he called it. When, after the war, he began writing for *Two-Fisted Tales* and *Frontline Combat*, he didn't just rely on his memories. He did careful research, both in the library and in the field. He even went so far as to fly in an experimental rescue plane and was nearly killed when it crashed. His stories reflected the true humanity and horrors of real war.

Will Eisner, Joe Kubert, John Severin: writers and artists in the field lived through the war either in the front lines or at home, and each were marked by the experience — an experience that influenced the way they looked at the world. An experience they shared with their readers.

A new enemy. As the '50s progressed, things began to change.

A new enemy appeared in war-torn and busily rebuilding Europe. Communism, activated in the Russian Revolution, began to spread, first into those countries the Soviets had "liberated" during the war, then into other places.

Communist agents and spies were suddenly everywhere and stopping them became a full-time occupation, both in comic books (Captain America, for example, having beaten the Nazis, now fought the Red menace), while, in the U.S. Congress, Senator Joe McCarthy began his investigations into "Unamerican Activities."

But even with the communist menace, war comics remained a part of the comic-book world. Time and again, heroic American troops fought vicious Nazis and sneaky Japs (excuse it — but those were the terms of the time). Over and over we fought the same war — and over and over, we won.

Then Korea happened. The country was again at war — a different war this time, more controlled, with strict guidelines and posted borders — but still a war, with men dying on both sides.

The media went back into the fray — but there was a difference this time. The public wasn't quite so unanimous about this war. They were tired of fighting, tired of losing sons and loved ones. The war comics of the time reflected this. E.C. in particular ran a series of anti-war war stories. Cleverly written and drawn, these stories showed a different, darker side of warfare — with all the suffering and mind-numbing savagery of real warfare on full display. For the first time, kids were coming in contact with something more realistic then Saturday serial heroics.

Korea fizzled to an end and, for the first time, the United States didn't win. The country reacted with a kind of quiet shock. We didn't show our outrage, we didn't blame the returning soldiers or the politicians who had dictated the conduct of the war. We just drew back — distanced ourselves from the whole thing. Began to turn away from war. That was over, right? Nuclear bombs and missiles made war a thing of the past.

Still, we continued to have our parades, only now they featured armed forces who had never fired a shot in anger. We still had our war comics, but, for the most part, they ignored Korea and the current world as much as possible, continuing to fight World War II over and over, maintaining the old, simple theme of good vs. evil. History, of course, was thrown out the window, as was any semblance of the true face of war — but the kids (and their dads) loved them — just as they loved *Combat, The Gallant Men*, and *The Rat Patrol* on TV.

The Heritage Collection takes a realistic look at the Civil War with its historical comics dedicated to single battles.

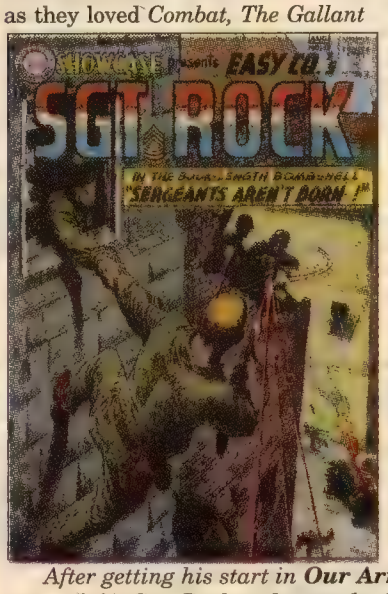
The times, they were a'changin'. Every now and then, a German officer who was all right would appear on one of these shows. A good man, honest — just trapped in an evil job. Every now and then, we would get a glimpse of the other side of the coin — the side that showed our "enemy" as a real person — not just a cardboard target for our heroes to destroy. Every once in a while ...

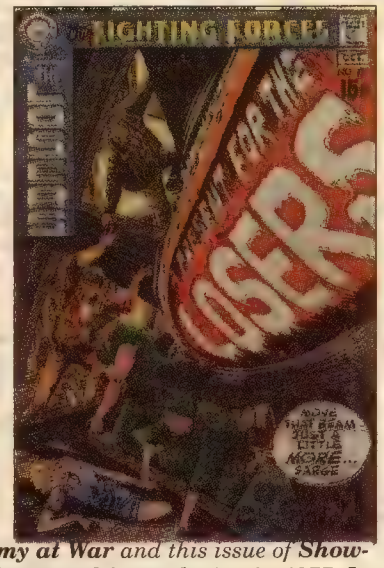
Then, with the mid-'60s, everything changed. Hollywood-style war stories disappeared, as the real war in Vietnam hit the TV screens of the nation. Suddenly, American families were bombarded with gut-wrenching pictures of our boys dying in the jungles of a far-away land.

And we didn't know why.

The comics of the day reflected the national feelings about this most public of all wars: DC's war comics all told us to "Make War No More."

Comics began to show the other faces of the enemy, starting with Joe Kubert's brilliant Enemy Ace leading the way. Support for Vietnam, and wars in general, ebbed with each day, bleeding away with the political will of the nation, until we pulled out, gave up, threw up our hands in disgust.





After getting his start in ***Our Army at War*** *and this issue of* ***Showcase*** *(left), Sgt. Rock took over the former title's numbering in 1977. In contrast, The Losers (right) headlined* ***Our Fighting Forces*** *for several years until the series was canceled in 1978. The group was later killed in* ***Crisis on Infinite Earths****.*

War went away. Almost immediately, any mention of war became taboo. War films disappeared; war toys went with them. So did parades. And war comics.

Newsstands changed. Where once hundreds of titles fought for space, now just a few dozen remained, and all of them featured the same thing: men (and women) in form-fitting costumes fighting crime and violence with super-human powers.

In short, the super-heroes had inherited the earth.

"Those who do not learn the lessons of history ..." Then, 10 or 12 years ago, Editor Larry Hama decided it was time to try again to introduce a new generation to the concept of war, something that was the basis of so much of our civilization. His instruments were a magazine called *Savage Tales* and a guy named Doug Murray (that's me). At the time, I was working for a bank — running a computer center, if you must know.

Some years before, while still in the Army (and stationed in the New York area), I had been fairly active in comics-fandom. I was one of the publishers of a fanzine called *Heritage* and was writing for both *The Monster Times* and a magazine called *Inside Comics*.

While working on those, I came into contact with Neal Adams' studio, a long contact, actually, since Neal was the one thing keeping me from going to press with the second issue of *Heritage* — he had a bit of a problem with deadlines even then.

I took the easiest solution to the problem. I sat at his side for a week

(Continues on Page 30)

Our favorite war comics

Strictly from the point of view of the raconteur, no battle from The Big One has a storyline better than the Battle of the Bulge. Just as Alllied forces settle in for a quiet Christmas in the Ardennes Forest, a beaten and bloodied German army launches a last-ditch campaign to push them into the sea. Foul weather neutralizing American air superiority, surrounded GIs fight for both survival and time. Adding to the drama, the Wermacht's not wasting time taking prisoners, and the Germans have English-speaking special forces troops running around in G.I. attire. Throw in a defiant General MacAuliffe tersely telling the enemy, from under siege, where to get off — and you've got fertile cinematic soil, indeed, plowed in films from *Battleground* to *Patton* to, well, *Battle of the Bulge*.

All of which clearly advised Gary Friedrich's story in *Sgt. Fury and His Howling Commandos King-Size Special* #4 (Aug 68), a 47-page blockbuster touring the Howlers through most of the stock scenes of battle. It's a story that includes one of the most sober scenes to be found in a happy-go-lucky Howler comic, as dozens of GI prisoners are gunned down by their captors. (It's also one of the most outlandish, as the Howlers — also captured, escape death by standing in the back of the group, falling down, and playing 'possum. Uh-huh.) Otherwise, it's an interesting dose of reality for Fury and company, punctuated with a pleasantly goofy five-page story introducing Friedrich and penciller Dick Ayers to the Howlers.

Say, wouldn't Van Johnson have made a great Dum-Dum Dugan?

— John Jackson Miller

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V3 2 G 31
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1 G- 15

APACHE TRAIL
2 G + 9
3 G 6

ATOMIC MOUSE
26 VG Giant 21
27 VG 9
51 G + 5

ATOMAN
1 VF/NM 350

ATTACK (TROJAN)
8 VG 12

AUTHENTIC POLICE CASES
22 VG/F 28
23 G 11
33 VG 18

AVIATION ADV'S.
16 F 18

BABY HUEY
1 G + 22

BAFFLING (ACE)
24 G/VG 24

BARNYARD COMICS
8 G + 9
21 NM w/sm. name

BATTLE ATTACK
1 G 9
3 G + 7

BATTLE FIRE
3 VG 7
4 VG + 6

BATTLE STORIES
4 VG + 13
5 VG + 13
7 VG 10
12 VG/F (Super) 5
15 VG/F 5
17 VG 5

BIG CHIEF WAHOO
3 F 42

BIG SHOT
3 Fr- 25
8 G- 42
83 G + 11
91 VG 12
103 G + 9

BILL BARNES
1 VG- 110

BILLY THE KID (TOBY)
13 G 7
17 F/VF 24
17 F 16
19 F 16
22 G + 10
26 VG 12
28 F 9
29 G 4

BILL BOYD
6 VG- 28

BLACK CAT
55 VG 21
63 VG 23
63 G + 17
64 F 34

BLACK DIAMOND
19 G 9
52 F 3-D 32
54 VG 8

BLACK MAGIC
V8 5 VF 40

BLACKSTONE MAGICIAN (VITAL)
1 F 67

BLAZING WEST
13 F- 13
15 F- 17
19 VG 13

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5 VG 12

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V8 8 F + 26
V8 12 G- 5

BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS
1 F + w/Tr BC 125
10 F 26
18 F 26
18 F 26

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3 G + 28
4 VG 38

BOB STEELE
1 Fr 29

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20 VG/F 73
22 VG 40
24 VG 40
25 G/VG 30
27 G 20
55 VG 24
80 G- 7
94 G 8
94 F 24
109 F + 29
114 VG + 22
115 VG + 22
116 F 25

BOY LOVES GIRL
27 G 5
28 VG 10
37 G 5
44 G 4
45 G- 4

BOY MEETS GIRL
8 G- 4
13 G- 4
16 G 5

THE BRAIN
1 G + 12
7 F 8
4 VG (1W) 5

BRENDA STARR
7 F + (Superior) 250
15 F (Charl.) 90

BRIDES ROMANCES
1 G 9
6 G- 4

BUCCANEER
8 (1W) VF 19

BUCK ROGERS (TOBY)
9 F Owl 10 69

BULLETMAN
16 VG 120

BUNNY
4 VG 6
6 VG/F 7

BUSTER BROWN
3 G 10
8 VG 18
18 F + 29
19 F 19
23 VG 10
28 VG 10
38 VG 10
39 F 16
40 G 9
41 VG 18

CALLING ALL BOYS
3 VG + 10

CANDY
24 G- 5
58 G- 9
64 G + 7

CAPTAIN & THE KIDS
18 G + 8
29 G 6

CAPTAIN FLEET
1 VF + Nice 90

CAPTAIN GALLANT
NN NM (Heinz) 60
NN VF + 49

CAPT. MARVEL
22 F 225
46 F- 79

CAPT. MARVEL JR.
10 G + Hitler Cvr 90
30 VG 72

CAPT. MIDNIGHT
54 VG/F 48

CAPT. STEVE SAVAGE
NN G/VG 54
2 G/VG 15
3 F 17
4 G 6
6 F + 25

CATHOLIC COMICS
12 VF 65

CHAMBER OF CHILLS
26 F 30

CHARLIE CHAN (CDC)
7 G + 19

CHRISTMAS JOURNEY THROUGH SPACE
NN 1950s G + 12

CHRISTMAS FUN BOOK
NN 1946 VF 19

CLAY CODY GUNSLINGER
1 VG/F 11

CLUE
11 NM 125

CODY OF PONY EXPRESS
8 VG 14

COMICS ON PARADE
48 G + 21
68 F 21
79 VG 12
Special Issue G- 6

COMPLETE LOVE
V29 5 VG 6
V30 1 G 4
V30 #4 G 4
V30 30 G 5

COO COO
32 VG 11

COOKIE
7 VG 13

CONFESSIONS OF ROMANCE
8 G- Cole 9

COWBOYS & INDIANS
6 G 8

COWBOY WESTERN (CDC)
19 G- 16
52 VG + 15
56 F 17

CRACK-A-JACK
32 Fr 29

CRACK WESTERN
83 G- 10

CRIME & JUSTICE (CDC)
13 VF 40
23 G + 9
24 F 17

CRIME DOES NOT PAY
94 G 9
131 VF 25
146 VG 9

CRIME SUSPENSTORIES
5 F + 171
6 G/VG 45
7 VG + 75
9 F 90
10 F 90
23 VG 33

CRUSADERS FROM MARS
1 VG Owl 10 125

CURLY KAYOE
7 G- 8

DAGWOOD
7 F 11

DANGER (I.W.)
12 VF- 10

DANGER IS OUR BUSINESS
3 G 9

DANIEL BOONE
2 VG- (Quality) 19
6 VF (Quality) 75
1 G + Sussex 21
2 G + Sussex 14

DAREDEVIL (L.G.)
4 G- Owl 10 + 120
18 VG 210
22 G- 30
26 F/VF 145
36 F- Name 60
38 VG/F 90
44 G + 28
48 VG 38
55 VG 24
73 G 9
75 G + 13
78 G 9
90 F 27
103 VG 15
104 F- 21
121 VG 16

DARING ADVENTURES
9 VF (I.W.) 35
16 VG 6
17 F + Green Lama 15

DARING CONFESSIONS
7 G- 7

DARK SHADOWS (AB)
3 F 28

DARLING ROMANCE
2 G 8
3 G- 5
4 G 7
5 VG + "Love" 14

DAVID CASSIDY (CDC)
1 VG 25
2 G + 6

DAVY CROCKETT
1 F 24
1 G 8
2 VG + 13
3 VG 9
4 G 6
4 G 6

DEAD EYE WESTERN
V2 12 VG 8

DEARLY BELOVED
1 G 12

DEATH VALLEY
2 G 7
4 G + 6
5 VG + 11
9 F 15

DENNIS THE MENACE (PINES)
4 VG Giants 19
5 VG 19
6 VG 19

DIARY SECRETS
27 VG + 16

DICK COLE
6 G- 10

DICK TRACY
65 VG 17

DO-DO
7 F + 39

DOLLMAN
1 F- 695

DON WINSLOW
6 F 75

DURANGO KID
6 F 45
7 VG/F 38
24 G 9
35 F 26

DYNAMO
1 VG/F 12

EAGER BEAVER
1959 Cities Service G- 9

EERIE (AVON)
2 G 65

EGBERT
15 G 4
16 F/VF 19

ELMO
1 G + 13

EXCITING WAR
5 G #1 9

FAMOUS FAIRY TALES
NN G + 1942 39

FAMOUS FUNNIES
97 G + 14
136 VG + 14
136 G- 5
177 F 13
208 G + 7

FANTASTIC TALES (IW)
1 VF- 21

FAT & SLAT (EC)
1 VG- 39

FAWCETT MOTION PICTURE
110 VG + "When World's Collide" 220
112 VG/F 38
112 VG 29
112 G + 22
113 F 30

FAWCETT MOVIE COMICS
NN G + "Dest. Moon" 99
NN VG "Powder River" 62
NN G "Powder River" 31
11 VG/F Lash Larue 75

FEATURE BOOK
36 VG 28
42 G 14
43 G 14
45 VG 28
49 VG Perry Mason 40

FEATURE COMICS
142 VG/F 23

FIGHT COMICS
86 G + 21

FIGHTING AIR FORCE
6 VG 8
20 VG + 6

FIGHTING AMERICAN
1 VF Harvey 27

FIGHTING FRONTS
1 F 20
2 VG + 20
3 G 5

FIGHTIN' MARINES
2 VG 70
3 F/VF 70
3 G- 17
6 VG 40
11 G + 24
11 VG 35
12 G + 7
45 F + (CDC) 8

FIGHTIN' NAVY
82 F/VF Giant 18

FIGHTING WAR
2 VG + 11

FIGHTIN' TEXAN
16 F/VF 25
17 F + 24

FIGHT THE ENEMY
1 VF 19

FIRST LOVE
10 G + 8
18 G 5
21 G 5
24 G 5
32 VG + 7
44 G 4

FIRST ROMANCE
13 G 5
14 G 5
42 G 4

FLYBOY
2 F 30

FORBIDDEN WORLDS
98 G- 3
101 F 8
104 VG 5
106 VF 18
107 G 4
108 G 4
111 G- 3
115 G 7
135 VG + 7
141 F 6
143 F 6
144 F 6
144 F 6
144 VG/F 5
145 F 6
145 VG 4

FRANK MERRIWELL AT YALE
1 F + 21

FRISKY ANIMALS
48 G 15

FRISKY FABLES
V1 3 G 8
V2 6 VG 12
V4 3 G 6

FOUR MOST
V5 3 VG 12

FROGMAN
9 VG + 13

FUNNIES
17 Fr 36
60 G/VG 88

FUNNY ANIMALS
11 VG 18
12 VG 18
33 Fr 15
53 F 15
60 VG + Name 30
62 F/VF Name 22
72 VG 10
76 G 5

FUNNY BOOK
1 G + 18

FUNNY 3-D
1 G 10

GABBY
6 F 10
6 VG + 8

GABBY HAYES
2 G 21
4 F 41
8 VG + 30
9 G + 18
11 F 26
14 F 26
15 F 26
15 VG 18
17 F 26
45 G 8
47 F- 19
52 VG 11

GANDY GOOSE
6 F 9

GASP
1 F 9
2 F 6
4 F + 9

GIGGLE
15 G 6
55 F + 25
58 VG 9
68 F + 20
69 F 13
78 F 13

G.I. IN BATTLE
4 G 5
7 F- 10

G.I. JOE (2-D)
11 F 1951 20
11 VG 13
8 G 1952 7
11 F 20
14 F 20
20 F 17
28 G- 5
30 G 5
32 VG 11
33 VG 11
36 F 16
39 F- 16

G.I. SWEETHEARTS
33 VG/F 10
34 G 5
35 G 5
38 G + 8
42 G 5
45 G- 4

GLAMOROUS ROMANCES
43 G + 7
61 G 5
63 G + 7
68 G + 7
69 G + 7
72 G 5

GO-GO & ANIMAL
5 VG 5
7 G 3
10 VG 5

GOLDEN ARROW
3 VG/F 65
6 F 86

GOLDEN LAD
3 F 75

GOOFY COMICS
20 VG/F 22

GORGO
4 VG 12
4 G 7
4 G 7
5VG + 20
7 VF 40
8 VG + 20
14 VG 15
20 G 4
22 VG/F 8
23 VG/F 8
NN "Revenge" VF 30
2 G "Return" 7
3 VG "Return" 8

GREAT ACTION
1 VF + (I W) 18

GREAT LOVER ROMANCE
1 G 12
7 G 5
8 G 6
11 G 5
14 G 5
18 G 5
20 G 5

GREAT WESTERN
9 G- 8

GREEN HORNET
47 VG 55

GREEN LAMA
3 F + 225
4 F + 225
5 Cvrls 21

GREEN PLANET
NN F/VF 35

GUADACANAL DIARY
NN Fr/G 15

GUNSMOKE (YOUTHFUL)
6 G- 12

HA HA
22 G- 4
53 F/VF 20
56 VF/NM sm. name 28
59 NM sm. name 28
70 F + 20

HAND OF FATE
20 VG- 24

HAPPY
12 G + 12
22 G- 6

HARVEY HITS
3 G 1st Rickie Rich solo 58

HAUNT OF FEAR
5 VG 98
17 VG 54
23 Fr 12

THE HAWK
4 VF 55
7 G 9
10 VG- 13
12 G + 14

HEADLINE
40 VG 9
65 G 5
71 G 5
72 G 5

HECKLE & JECKLE
28 VG 9

HEE HAW
1 VG/F 10
2 VG/F 7

HELLO PAL
2 F- 115

HERBIE
2 F 23
8 F- 25
11 VG/F 14
13 F 15
19 F- 15
20 VG/F 14
21 F/VF 18
22 VF 33

HI SCHOOL ROMANCE
14 VG + 8
14 VG 7
19 VG/F 8
33 G + 5
33 G + 5

HOPALONG CASSIDY
13 VF + Nice 135
16 VG 32
19 VG/F 40
32 G 9
40 G/G- 8

HOT RODS & RACE CARS
19 VG + 17
32 VG 9
36 G- 5
47 VG 9
52 G 5
72 VG 9
75 VG + 7
77 VG + 7
79 VG 6

HOT ROD RACERS
12 VG + 9

HUMAN FLY (IW)
1 VF/NM 11

HYPER MYSTERY
2 cvrls 30

IBIS
5 VF + 395

INTIMATE CONFESSIONS
2 G 14

IWO JIMA
NN G 26

JACKIE GLEASON (ST JOHN)
2 F + 210
2 G + 75

JESSE JAMES
20 G + 17
23 VG 8

JET
4 VG Owl 10 75

JET FIGHTERS
6 VG + 13

JETSONS (CDC)
1 F- 15

JIM SOLAR
"Man from Mars" NM 35

JOE LOUIS
1 F/VF 225

JOE PALOOKA
4 G- 25
24 VG 12
25 F 17
26 F 17
28 Fr/G 4
37 NM 32
38 NM + 35
75 G 5
86 VG 8
88 G 5

JOE YANK
6 G 7
11 F 11
16 G 5

JOHNNY HAZARD
8 VF Nice 60

JOURNEY INTO FEAR
20 G 20

JUDO JOE
3 G + 9

JUMBO COMICS
46 G- 30
89 F + 78
91 F/VF 82
91 G 17
114 F 38
159 G- 9
160 F + 50
165 VG + 29

JUNGLE COMICS
79 F + 75
80 F + 75
81 F + 70
82 F + 70
100 F 56
110 G 15
157 F 38
158 G- 10

JUSTICE TRAPS THE GUILTY
15 G- 5
26 VG 8
37 G 5
46 F 10
61 VG + 9
64 VG/F 9
67 F 9
72 VF 20
76 F 9
90 VG/F 9

KAANGA COMICS
1 G/G- 38
3 VG 32
16 F + 40
1 (I W) F + 10

KATZENJAMMER KIDS
2 VF- 39
6 F/VF 25
9 VF 30

KEEN TEENS
1 F + Sinatra Photo 95

KEY COMICS
5 F + 75

KID COWBOY
4 G + 10
4 G- 4
6 VG 12
13 G/VG 9

KIDDIE KARNIVAL
1952 100 pgs Scarce Fr- 15

KID ETERNITY
11 G + 22

KING COMICS
64 F 45
64 VG 30
64 Fr/G 11

KING OF BAD MEN OF DEADWOOD
NN VG + 35

KIT CARSON
5 VG + 16
5 G 6
8 VG + 16

KONGA
4 VG/F 28
4 VG 23
6 F + 30
8 G 8
17 G + 9
23 G 6

LASH LA RUE
6 VG 52
11 G 20
38 G 12
45 G + 18
46 G- 9
48 G + 20
53 G 9
56 VG + 24

LIFE STORY
28 VG + 9

LI'L ABNER
63 G- 13

LITTLE ROQUEFORT
10 F 11

LIVING BIBLE
1 VG 62

LONG BOW
6 VG/F 16

LOVE CONFESSIONS
2 G 10
19 G 8
19 G 8
27 VG 6
29 F 24
37 G- 3

LOVE DIARY
11 VG 8
11 G 4
38 VG 7
45 G 5
47 G 5

LOVE JOURNAL
10 G + 13
11 G- 4

LOVE LETTERS
1 Fr 15
9 G- Mitchum cvr 8
12 VG 8
14 G + 6
30 G + 9

MAGIC AGENT
1 VG + 8

MAGIC COMICS
30 G 20
121 F 17
122 F 17

MALU (IW)
1 VG/F 10
1 Fr/G 4

MARCH OF COMICS
72 VF- double cover 49
72 VG 20
87 F Owl 10 26
87 VF 45
148 G + 8
247 VF + 28
355 F + Lulu 18
459 F + 6
463 F + 6

MARK TRAIL
1 G Giant 11

MARMADUKE MOUSE
11 VF + 30

MARTIN KANE (FOX)
4 G/G- Scarce 50

MIDNIGHT
6 F 20

MIDNIGHT MYSTERY
7 G + 10

MIGHTY MIDGET
11 Capt. Marvel VG 30
11 Capt. Marvel Jr. VG 30
11 Golden Arrow VF 90
11 Golden Arrow VG 26
12 Balbo VF 30
12 Phantom Eagle F 19

MIGHTY MOUSE
8 VG/F 40
23 VG 15
28 F + 25
47 G + 9
61 G 8
78 VG 12
80 F 17
Fun Club 6 Giant F 27

MILITARY
31 VG- 80
38 VG 94

MODERN
49 VG 72
64 G + 40

MONKEYSHINES
27 VF/NM 28

MONTE HALE
65 F 24
83 G + 15

MONTE HALL
1 VG 19
6 G 5

MOVIE LOVE
1 VG/F 28
12 G Martin & Lewis 11

MY DATE
3 VG- 25

MY LITTLE MARGIE
9 G 10
17 VG 6
27 G 5

MY LITTLE MARGIE'S BOYFRIENDS
2 G 8

MYSTERIES OF UNEXPLORED WORLDS
1 G + 44
20 VG 8
22 VG Ditko 28
26 G 14
28 VG 6
29 F 8
30 F + 10
31 VF 12
31 VG- 5
32 G + 4
33 G- 3

MYSTERIES WEIRD & STRANGE
4 G + 20
7 G 14

MYS. ADVS. WITH SANTA CLAUS
NN 1947 VF/NM 30

MYSTERIOUS SUSPENSE
1 VG + Ditko 12
1 G + 6

NATIONAL
56 G- 11

NAVY 1817-1865
NN F + 21

NAVY PATROL
3 G + 7

NEW ROMANCES
8 G 6
15 G 5

NIGHTMARE
13 F/VF 95

NIGHT OF MYSTERY
15 G sm tape 39

NORTHWEST MOUNTIES
12 VG Baker 23

NYOKA
70 F 13
22 G Charlton 6

OUR FLAG
2 G- 110

OUTER SPACE
V2 25 VG/F 25

OUT OF THE NIGHT
1 F/VF 240

OZARK IKE
12 NM/M 60
15 NM/M 60
21 NM/M 49

PANHANDLE PETE
1 F + 39

PANIC
6 G + 13
9 VG 20

PERSONAL LOVE
1 G + 10
21 VG/F 14
29 G Heston 10
31 VG + Brando 22
1 G + (Prize) 10

PICTURE NEWS
9 F 34

PICT STOR. FROM AMER. HIST.
1 G- 19
2 G- 15
4 Fr 11

PICT STOR. FROM THE BIBLE
1 F N. Test 41
2 F N. Test 41
232 Pg. Giant #1 (1st) G 25
232 Pg. Giant #1 (2nd print) G 25
96 "Life of Christ" VG + 50

PIRACY
6 G 13

PLASTIC MAN
24 F- 90
51 VF 160
53 VG + 60
56 VG + 60
61 VF/NM 190

POLICE COMICS
11 VF89 1,450
26 F 175
91 VF + Name 135

POLICE TRAP
6 VG 39

POLLY PIGTAILS
34 G 5
35 VG 6
39 VG 6

POP. TEEN-AGERS SECRETS OF LOVE
15 G + 20

PRIZE COMICS
91 VF/NM 80

RACKET SQUAD
25 VG 18

RANGE BUSTERS
9 VG + 11

RANGE ROMANCE
1 Fr/G 15

RANGERS COMICS
47 F 47
48 VF 75
54 F 47

REAL CLUE CRIME
V3 #4 G 7
V6 #12 VG 17

REAL HEROES
7 F 28

REAL LIFE COMICS
27 F- 33

REAL LOVE
27 Fr 6
30 VG 8
50 G 5

REAL WEST ROMANCE
4 VF + S&K 110

RED BAND
2 NM 225

RED HAWK
11 VG 19

RED MASK
49 G + 21
52 G 15
52 VG 30
8 VG (IW) 6

RED MOUNTAIN
NN F 69

RED RABBIT
4 VF- 21
5 VF- 21
6 F 13
7 F + 18
8 VF + Name B.C. 28
9 VG 8
10 VF 25
11 VF/NM 24
12 F/VF 18
22 F/VF 18

REPTILICUS
1 G 14
2 VF- 30
3 F "Reptisaurus" 15
4 F 15
5 VF/NM 35
6 VG/F 13
6 VF 29
8 VG- 9

RETURN OF THE OUTLAW
5 G 6
6 VG 11

REVEALING ROMANCES
1 VG 15
2 VG 9

RICHIE RICH
2 G- 40
6 F/VF 75
10 G- 13
12 VG + 12

ROBIN HOOD
2 Fr/G (Quality) 21
52 (#1) F (Sussex) 45

ROCKY LANE
37 F (Charl.) 18

ROCKY LANE
1 G- 70
2 F 108
16 VG 28
57 VG 19
64 VF + 55
65 F + 50
68 VG + 23

ROD CAMERON
1 G- 30
9 Fr 8

ROMANTIC CONFESSIONS
1 G + 17
5 G- 5
8 G + 8
V.2 #8 G 5

ROMANTIC MARRIAGE
9 G- 6
10 G 14

ROMANTIC SECRETS
3 G 7
4 VG + 19
40 F 5

ROMANTIC STORY
1 G 12
117 VG + 4

RUSTY
3 G- 5
5 VG 11

SABU
2 F 45
2 VG 30

SCHWINN BIKE
NN Late 50's 10

SCOOP COMICS
1 G- 90

SCOTLAND YARD
2 VG 21
3 F 32

SHADOW COMICS
V2 2 G 52
V7 #11 F + 180

SHOCK DETECTIVE
20 G + 29

SHOCKING MYSTERY CASES
50 G + 48

SHOCK SUSPENSE STORIES
1 VG- 105
12 VG 54

SIX GUN HEROES
8 G- 10
45 G- 5
68 F 8

SLAVE GIRL
2 VG 140

SMASH
5 G 45

SNIFFY THE PUP
12 VG/F 8

SOLDIER & MARINE
11 VG 13

SPACE ADVENTURES (CDC)
29 G- 5
30 G 6
30 G 8
31 VG 32
35 G + 25
35 F 50
36 F/VF 70
37 F 50
38 VG + 40
40 F 50
41 VG 5
42 F 50
43 F + 11
43 F + 11
44 VF 20
44 F 9
45 VG 6
46 VG + 8
46 VF/NM 22
47 F + 11
47 VF/NM 22
48 F/VF 11
50 F 9
51 VG 6
52 VG + 8

SPACE WAR (CDC)
3 G 7
8 VG + 42
9 VG + 9
11 VG 7
13 F/VF 15
13 VF 20
14 VG 7
15 VF 20
15 VF 20
16 VF- 12
16 VG 6
16 VG 6
18 VF 20
19 G 5
20 F 9
21 VF + 21

SPARKLER
22 VG 58

SPARKLING STARS
2 VF 58

SPAWN
1 NM/M Cap. Coll. Signed 175

SPEED COMICS
1 cvrls 80

SPEED DEMONS
6 G + 6
9 G- 5

SPIRIT
3 G/G- 29
1 G + Harvy. Giant 8
1 VG Harvy. Giant 11

SPY HUNTERS
17 VG 18
22 F/VF 40

SPY SMASHER
2 G Owl 10 + 133
52 VG + uk. ed. 70

STRAIGHT ARROW
4 VG 31
5 VG + 38
5 VG 31
6 F- 38
11 VG 31
13 F- 32
14 G 12
21 VG w/ts. cvr 22
26 VG/F 19
35 VG 13
40 VG + 24
42 F 18

STRANGE CONFESSIONS
4 G Scarce 30

STRANGE JOURNEY
3 F 30
3 G 10

STRANGE MYSTERIES
6 VG 39

STRANGE PLANETS
1 VF/NM (IW) 55

STRANGE SUSPENSE STORIES
55 F 12
56 F/VF 17
57 VF- 19
58 G + 7
59 F/VF 17
59 F 12
60 F 12
61 F + 8
65 F + 8
71 F 6

SUBMARINE ATTACK
V2. 15 F + 12

SUNDAY COMPASS (RED RYDER)
12/24/50 VG 15
1/14/51 VG 15
1/21/51 VG 15

SUPER GREEN BERET
1 F + Giant 20

SUPER HEROES VS S. VILLIANS
1 VF 45

SUPER MAGICIAN
V1 3 G 30
V1. 5 VG 52
V4. 6 Fr 7

SUPER MOUSE
5 VG/F 25

SUPERSNIPE
V2. 1 F 90
V3. 2 F 80
V4. 2 G 20

SWAT MALONE
1 VG 21

SWEETHEARTS
68 G (#1) 12
69 VG 10
74 F 15
75 VG 10
77 VG- 8
78 G- 4
82 VG 8
93 G/VG 6
V2. 39 VG 5

SWIFT ARROW
2 G + 11

TALES FROM THE CRYPT
37 VG 72
38 VG 72
43 VG 72

TALES OF HORROR
7 F- 38

TARGET
V3. 2 G- 37
V5. 4 F + 36
V6. 4 VG 15
V6. 8 G 8
V9. 8 VG 48

TEENAGE HOT RODDERS
2 VG 6
8 F 9
20 VG 5
24 VG + 6

TEEN-AGE ROMANCES
5 G- 11
19 G Baker 18

TEEN-IN
NN Summer 1968 VG/F 11

TELL IT TO THE MARINES
7 VG + 13
7 G 6
8 VG 12
9 G + 9
11 VG + 13
12 VG + 13
14 G- 5

TENSE SUSPENSE
1 F 20
2 F- 18

TERRY & THE PIRATES
8 VG 8
15 VG w/S.R. 45

TEX RITTER
3 G 20
3 Fr/G 12
4 Fr/G 12
23 VG + 21
24 F 24
28 VG 15

THE THING
2 G + 67

THIS IS WAR
8 VG 11

3-D COMICS
"House of Terror" #1 VF 170
"Jungle Thrills" #1 F (L.B. Cole) 130
Mighty Mouse 2 VG 50
EC Classic 1 G 70

THRILLING COMICS
76 G + 16

THRILLING ROMANCES
15 G- 5
19 G Michael Rennie 10

THUNDER AGENTS
1 F 36
1 VG/F 30
1 VG 24
2 NM/M File copy 85
4 NM 48
7 VG/F 9
8 F 10
11 F/VF 12
16 F/VF 12
18 F 8
20 F 7

TIM HOLT
3 G + 36

TIPPY TEEN
16 VG "Twiggy' cvr 7
21 VG 5
Spec. Ed. F 8

TIP TOP
55 VG 46
68 VG 28
106 F 22
106 VG 14
110 VG 14
117 G- 6
168 G- 5
201 G 5

T-MAN
5 F/VF 73
13 G- 7
14 G- 8
18 G 9
20 F 35
22 VG + 22
24 F 26
31 F 23

TOM MIX (FAW.)
4 VG + 74
27 G + 18
52 G 8

TOP JUNGLE
1 VF (IW) 20

TOPSY TURVY
1 G 20

TRUE AVIATION
7 F 20

TRUE COMICS
21 VG 12
25 VF 38
29 F 18
32 F + 20
34 F/VF 21
51 F 13
52 VF 21
52 G- 4
56 G 5
63 F + 20
68 F + 20
74 VG + 11
75 VG + 11
76 VG 9
79 VG/F 9
80 VG/F 39
80 VG + 21
82 VG + 39

TRUE CONFIDENCES
4 VG + 23

TRUE LOVE
6 G 13

TRUE SPORT PICTURE
V3. 6 G- 10
V4. 6 VG 18

TRUE 3-D
1 VF with Glasses 45

TRUE TO LIFE ROMANCE
10 G- L.B. Cole 9
22 G L.B. Cole 10

TUFF GHOSTS
1 VG 16

TWO FISTED TALES
18 (#1) VG 158
29 Fr 11
39 G- 9
41 VG 23

UNCLE SAM
2 F- nice book 295

UNDERWORLD CRIME
3 VG 27

UNKNOWN WORLDS
1 VF + 160
2 VG 20
3 F 30
4 VG/F 25
9 VF + 65
10 VG + 19
11 VG + 19
12 VG + 15
13 G + 10
13 F 17
14 F 17
15 VG + 15
16 F 17
16 G- 4
17 G 6
17 F/VF 25
18 F 17
23 VG 8
26 G + 5
27 VG 7
28 G 4
29 G 4
43 G 5
48 G + 7
53 VG 5
56 G + 7
57 G 5

UNTAMED LOVE
2 G + 18

UNUSUAL TALES (CDC)
21 G 5
31 F 8
32 F 8
33 F + 10
33 G + 5
34 F + 10
35 F + 10
35 F 8
36 VF 17

US AIR FORCE
1 VF 33
3 G 4

US MARINES
2 F 13

US PARATROOPERS
3 F + 22
4 F 20
5 VG + 18
6 VG + 18

VALOR
3 F + 65

VARIETY COMICS (FOX)
NN G/G- 132 pgs. Wood 60

VAULT OF HORROR
28 VG + 60
28 F/VF 108

WAMBI
8 (I.W.) VF 18

WANTED
50 G 12
51 F + 35

WAR AGAINST CRIME
3 VG/F 85

WAR BATTLES
8 F 12
9 VG 8

WAR DOGS OF U.S. ARMY
1 F 35

WARFRONT
2 VG 9
7 G- 3
12 F 7
21 G 4
24 G 4
32 G- 3
34 G + Kirby cvr 8
35 G + Kirby cvr 8

WAR STORIES (FARRELL)
1 VF 50
1 G 8

WEB OF MYSTERY
6 VG + 47
23 VG 35

WEIRD ADVENTURES
3 VG/F 78

WEIRD HORRORS
9 F 92

WEIRD SCIENCE
17 G/VG 45
19 VG- 50
22 VG 80
22 G 40

WESTERN ADVENTURE
6 VG 18

WESTERN HEARTS
4 VG/F 23
7 G- 7

WESTERN HERO
76 VG (#1) 50
81 F/VF 62
95 G + 15
103 VF- 50

WESTERN ROUGH RIDERS
4 VG 11

WESTERN TALES
30 G 15

WESTERN THRILLERS
1 VG/F 100

"WHAT IF THEY CALL ME CHICKEN?"
NN Anti-Drug VF 15

WHITE INDIAN
11 VF- 110

WHIZ
33 NM90 475
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105 G- 13

WILD BILL HICKOK
18 VG 9
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28 G 9
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1 VF/NM 10

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2 Fr/G 60
13 G- 32
117 VG 24
117 G 12
121 VG 24

WITCHES TALES
22 F + 60

WONDERLAND
3 F 18

WONDERWORLD
5 Fr/G 95

WOW
10 VF + sharp 550

YOUNG EAGLE
8 F/VF 34

YOUNG KING COLE
2 F- 29

YOUTHFUL ROM.
2 G 10
7 G- 7

While most of his adventures with The Howlers were set in World War II, Sgt. Fury and his team also fought in Korea in ***Sgt. Fury Annual*** *#1 (1965).*

PARADE

(From Page 28)

or so while he laid out, pencilled, and finally finished the story for me. During that week — and the weeks that followed, I became friends with most of the other denizens of the studio. Dick Giordano was there, Jack Abel, Ralph Reese, and a talented writer and artist named Larry Hama.

Heritage eventually went to the printer — right about the time I got orders to go overseas — initially to Korea, then, for the second time, to Vietnam.

By the time I had worked off my time with Uncle Sam, *Heritage* had come and gone, *Inside Comics* had folded, and I needed a way to make a living. I never thought about doing comics; I knew what they paid and how difficult it was to get in. No, I had to find something now, so I turned to the computer industry, ending up with the aforementioned bank. What writing I did was about films (my other love) for magazines like *Millimeter* and *Take One*.

And that's the way things went until some time in 1985. That's when Hama, now a writer-editor for Marvel, decided to try the black-and-white *Savage Tales* that would feature stories about conflict. He wanted *Savage Tales* to feature a series of stories about Vietnam — a realistic series, written, if possible, by a veteran of that war.

And that's how I got back into comics. For almost six years, I wrote my stories of Vietnam. First in *Savage Tales*, then in *The 'Nam*.

It was an interesting experience. I frankly didn't expect anyone to read *The 'Nam* and figured it would be canceled within six issues.

The Marvel marketing department agreed with me. Most of the people working there were born long after World War II — most were born after the Korean War. Many had no real emotional connection to the power of war — in fact, they'd spent their whole lives being told that war was evil. It's little wonder, then, that they knew, with absolute certainty, that war comics did not sell.

Obviously, it would be stupid for Marvel (and its marketing department) to spend valuable (and carefully budgeted) money on such a thing, so Marvel didn't. Promotional money went into the other big events of that time: the wedding of Spider-Man and the kickoff of The New Universe.

But, as *The 'Nam* hit the stands, we discovered that we'd been wrong. It touched a chord in readers that nobody (least of all me) had planned on. Before *The 'Nam*, fathers who had been Vietnam vets hadn't talked with their children about the war, lacking the words to express what had happened there. The kids knew nothing about the war: The schools were ignoring it and there were no movies or TV shows.

The 'Nam became a perfect primer, giving families the words they needed (coupled with those wonderful Michael Golden pictures). Veteran fathers began to open up, began to communicate with their children.

And with us.

We got letters, hundreds of them, thanking us for the series. Sales figures showed that the letters were just the tip of the iceberg. Suddenly, we were a hit, selling nearly as many copies a month as *Uncanny X-Men*!

So, you ask, if *The 'Nam* was such a hit, why isn't it still being done at Marvel? And why didn't the rest of the comics industry, which never misses a bandwagon to jump on, inundate the comics stores with dozens of other war comics?

Simple. It's because the other companies, like some at Marvel, still knew (despite those sales figures), that war comics couldn't sell. This *'Nam* thing must be a fluke, they told themselves. Sales would certainly drop within a few issues, they said, and then they decided to cut their losses by switching the series to direct sales only.

The 'Nam was a series that had always sold well through the returnable market (the newsstands), appealing, as it did, to all those Vietnam vets (and their kids) who otherwise had no interest in comics. In fact, as we quickly learned, fully half our sales were made on the newsstand, by men rushing home from work, by young wives in the 7-Eleven — even by G.I.'s in the Post Exchange. Those sales promptly vanished, when we went 100% direct-market.

It was the beginning of the end.

DC expanded its war stories from World War II to Vietnam with the adventures of Capt. Hunter.

Oh, *The 'Nam* staggered on for a few more years, still selling mid-range. During those years, though, Hama left his editorial position to go freelance. His successor, Pat Redding, also left to go into the more lucrative world of newspaper strips.

Her successor decided to change the rules we had created for *The 'Nam*. Pull it out of real time, insert comics characters (The Punisher issues sold well — that proved it was a good idea, right?), make it part of the Marvel mainstream.

I tried to work with him, even did an issue that featured several Marvel super-heroes (done my own way), but it was no use. After five years and more than 60 issues, I left to do other things. *The 'Nam* joined me less then a year later.

It was the last war-oriented comic book the major companies did. (Yes, I know about *The Unknown Soldier* — but that's not really a war comic book; it's a superhero title.)

Make war no more. So what happened. Why has the war comic book and the Veterans Day parade disappeared?

The Vietnam War and its aftermath were a part of it. Vietnam, the first television war, left the American public with a bad taste for wars in general — one they have spent a long time trying to forget. It's only recently that Hollywood, the industry that continues to dominate American opinions and tastes, has attempted to re-enter that particular arena. Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan* may reinvigorate the war genre, but that's for the future.

So Hollywood has backed away from the concept of war. How about the schools — those bastions of education that we trust to teach our children about such things as history?

Not a chance. Just as our morals and ways of making a living have changed, so has our educational system.

Once upon a time, just to move out of grammar school, a student had to know how to read and write, had to be able to do simple arithmetic — and had to have some concept of the history of this country and the world.

That's no longer true. Now, "socialization" theories have caused many schools to promote students with no regard for their grades or ability to do the work. Year after year, American children know less about the world around them — and are unlikely to learn more, since they have lost the habit of reading, either for information or for entertainment. We've created an entire generation who knows only what they see on TV and understands little of that.

Into the night. What does this mean to the comics industry?

First, it means that, after school, the average kid (who doesn't go to the mall to hang out) will turn to TV or a video game for entertainment rather than reading a comic (or other) book. That means fewer readers every year and a loss of sales.

It also means that comics are competing with TV and movies for the youth entertainment dollar. For many years comics could show things that TV and movies could not: That's why science fiction and horror comics thrived.

Now, with modern stuntwork and computer-generated special effects, even small budget science-fiction and horror films can put the same things onto the screen as the most imaginative of comics-and more realistically. TV soap operas cover the same ground that romance comics once did and don't require the effort of reading to follow the story. Ditto with war comics. No comic book ever printed can match the first half-hour of *Saving Private Ryan* for raw emotion and excitement.

TV shows, movies, video games: All have grabbed up larger chunks of young readers' time. To get them back, new and bigger thrills are needed. Comics must find those thrills, blaze new ground, become incredibly creative in everything they do.

Can our current crop of comics professionals do that? I'd like to think so, but I keep thinking back to those days at Marvel, when people, pushing aside sales figures, kept telling me that war comics don't sell.

Maybe there is a parade, after all. It's just a different kind of parade. Not a parade of celebration, but a parade of ignorance. The last parade for our industry and perhaps for our country.

During the latter stages of the Vietnam War, DC ended its war stories with this simple slogan.

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420 VG 5.00
421 FN+ 8.00
422 VF- 13.00
423 FN 7.00
424 VG 5.00
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426 VG- 2.00
427 VG 3.00
428 VG 3.00
429 VG 3.00
430 VG- 2.00
431 VF+ 13.00
431 VG+ 3.00
432 VG 3.00
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434 VG- 2.00
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451 VF 7.00
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460 VF+ 8.00
461 VF/NM 8.00
462 FN/VF 4.00
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464 FN/VF 4.00
465 VG/FN 2.00
466 VF/NM 15.00
467 FN+ 6.00
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469 VF+ 6.00
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471 VF/NM (signed by Rogers) 17.00
472 VF/NM (signed by Rogers) 17.00
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475 VF+ (signed by Rogers) 21.00
476 VF+ (signed by Rogers) 21.00
477 VF+ 15.00
478 FN (signed by Rogers) 7.00
479 VF+ 15.00
480 VF- 5.00
481 VG+ 3.00
482 FN 3.00
483 VF/NM 10.00
484 VF+ 5.00
485 VF+ 5.00
486 VF+ 5.00
487 VF+ 5.00
488 VF/NM 5.00
489 VF+ 5.00
490 VF+ 5.00
491 VF+ 5.00
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493 VF/NM 5.00
494 VF 4.00
495 VF/NM 5.00
496 NM 6.00
497 NM 6.00
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511-526 set) AVG NM 42.00
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282 FN 75.00
291 VG+ 50.00
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47 VF- 32.00
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49 VG+ 52.00
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56 VF- 29.00
63 VF+ 31.00
65 VF 26.00
66 VF+ 70.00
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66 FN+ 30.00
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67 FN/VF 45.00
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614 VF- 33.00
624 VF 33.00
625 VF 26.00
627 VF+ 33.00
627 VF+ 33.00
634 VF+ 28.00
639 FN 26.00
658 VF- 26.00
671 VF- 45.00
682 VF 26.00
693 FN/VF 28.00
702 NM- 37.00
703 VF- 33.00
705 VF+ 26.00
712 VF 30.00
716 VF+ 37.00
716 VF 34.00
723 VF 42.00
723 VF 42.00
735 VG/FN 49.00
757 VF- 33.00
758 VF+ 24.00
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794 VF- 37.00
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806 VF 21.00
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1159 (77 Sunset Strip PC) VF 52.00
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1168 FN/VF 22.00
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1169 VF- 58.00
1170 FN/VF 32.00
1179 VF 38.00
1188 (Atlantis PC) VF+ 60.00
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24 FN 28.00
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14 VG+ 29.00
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By Maggie Thompson

DC's Larry Ganem recently wrote to report that, though DC has canceled its previously announced set of boxed note cards, the two sets of boxed note cards from Chronicle Books (featuring classic Superman and Wonder Woman images) that were featured in Diamond's *Previews* two months ago should be available shortly (if they're not in shops right this minute).

The sets are part of Chronicle's line of DC products, and *Comics Guide* will cover in a future issue the incredible coffee-table book *Superman: The Complete History*. In the meantime, keep in mind that the note cards are $12.95 for 20 cards and envelopes (four each of five different images). It's a way to keep classic comics in the minds of your correspondents.

• Some fans of classic comic *strips* have been known to grouse about much current strip art, complaining that strips like Dilbert lack the beauty of many features of long ago. (One intriguing feature of *Dilbert*, by the way, is that — unlike, say, characters in *Peanuts* — Scott Adams' characters are fully realized in three dimensions. Have you noticed? As primitive an artist as Adams seems to be, he has mastered the drawing of imaginary characters from any angle so they are consistent with any other angle.)

Perhaps a nadir of syndicated strips, as far as art is concerned, has been reached by *Bliss* by Stephen Hersh. If you complain that *Cathy* art was ugly and crude, you're not going to enjoy ***The Road to Bliss*** (1998, Andrews McMeel, ISBN 0-8362-6748-6, $9.95). The back cover says that at his wedding, Hersh gave guests trading cards from the courtship (complete with bubble gum). And the response led to *Bliss*. And that led to this collection.

Sweet but unpromising? Sounds like it — but it's unexpectedly funny. **He:** "I've used my new tools to hang a picture, tighten a switch plate, and pry a stubborn cork. What's next?" **She:** How bout installing a ceiling fan?" **He:** "That's the sort of thing I couldn't do myself. I'd need help." **She:** "Call the super." **He:** "He was certainly helpful with the cork."

Or **She:** "Is this something new: leaving your cereal bowl out for me to clean?" **He:** "Yes." **She:** "Any reason?" **He:** "I like to sneak in little transgressions here and there to keep you on your toes. I got three free days of not cleaning my own cereal bowl. And I have a couple other things going that you haven't caught yet." **She** *(affectionately)*: "You're like a naughty puppy, aren't you?" **He:** "Go try lifting the pickles by the lid."

Mad about You in daily gag form — and fun. But many fans of, say, George McManus and Cliff Sterrett won't like it. If you can get past that, you may end up asking your local newspaper to carry *Bliss* (and buy copies of this book to give to married friends).

• ***threats, bribes & videotape*** (1998, Andrews McMeel, ISBN 0-8362-6750-8, $9.95) is the 10th *Baby Blues* collection by Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott. The art is better than *Bliss* (though still not likely to appeal to those buffs of '30s masterpieces), and the gags are also funny. The strip features Mom, Dad, toddler, and baby — and, again, reflects enough of real life that the gags satisfy again and again.

Mom: "I can't believe that Zoe was exposed to chickenpox on her very first day of preschool." Toddler: "What's chippen pops?" Mom: "Chicken-pox. It's a disease that kids get." "What's a dizeeze?" Mom: "A disease is a sickness. You might get sick in a week or so because you played with Trent." Toddler: "Oh. Playing with boys will make me sick?" Dad: "Yes. Remember that." Mom: "You're not helping here!"

• Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman did ***Zits: Sketchbook #1*** (1998, Andrews McMeel, ISBN 0-8362-6825-3, $9.95) with material collected from their *Zits* strip. This art is top-drawer, with a relaxed line reminiscent of political cartoonist Pat Oliphant. It's another family strip, this time with a focus on teen-age problems — and, again, the gags are funny. This may be an age in which serious continuity strips are hard to find. But gag-a-day writers can touch and entertain their target audiences.

Point of View

From Page 24

ilar work ethic and rapidity, and I think, in a way, it has added something to their work.

It definitely takes something away. Kirby used to occasionally wish he could have spent a few more days on each story. He especially regretted not being able to take a breather between jobs so he might cogitate a while on what he was going to do next. Alas, the rigors of the business did not allow this. If, just before dinner, he finished a story set in World War II, he usually had to start on something set in Asgard immediately after dessert. No time for decompression.

Between 1962 and 1966, Jack generally had to pencil 20 pages per week. As Marvel found other artists and as they raised their rates a tad, he was able to scale back to 15 or so per week — still an incredible output. (He did a minimum of 15 per week his whole time at DC, and that included handling all the writing.)

As he slowed from 20 to 15, you can see his work tighten up somewhat and become more detailed. He was able to put in a little more time per page, and I think the work improved —

— but not in every way. There's something very compelling, some sense of raw intensity and simplicity in the work done quicker. More polish and more detail is not always for the better.

I don't know which I prefer. I certainly deplore the working conditions and rotten pay that forced guys like Kirby to work so fast and so hard. On the other hand, I loved some of that work — and I think some of what I loved about it had to do with how hard and fast they worked.

Now, you'll note that all the names I'm mentioning in this piece are of one generation — or maybe one-and-a-half. There are some very fine and prolific artists and writers today, but I wonder if any of them has the natural velocity of a Kubert or Sekowsky. Perhaps — since the money has improved somewhat — they haven't learned to draw that fast because they didn't have to. I'd certainly be surprised if anyone in comics today is working the kind of hours that Kirby put in.

I like the fact that comics artists today don't have to toil that way. I like the fact that the business now accommodates the artist or writer who can't (or doesn't want to) bang it out and hasten on to the next job. I like the fact that we don't treat creative people like plantation workers and penalize them for not breaking the sound barrier.

But I also like a lot of comics that were produced fast. Go figure.

Anyway, I'm going to close this column — which, by the way, I wrote very fast — with an anecdote I heard about two comic-book artists. Never mind their names. Let's call them Fast Artist and Slow Artist.

They both produced very good, first-rate art. Both had legions of fans and admirers. But, if you did the tally, you'd note that Fast Artist had almost twice as many of those pages appearing in print as Slow Artist.

Since one's earning power in this business is not unrelated to one's output, Slow Artist was not a happy boy. He went to Fast Artist and said, "Fast Artist, I don't understand why you are so fast and I am so slow. May I please work alongside you in your studio for a week or three? I am hoping that I, Slow Artist, will pick up some pointers that will enable me to accelerate the rate at which I produce and, therefore, greaten my annual income." Fast Artist said that was fine with him.

The next day, Slow Artist moved into Fast Artist's studio and parked himself at an extra drawing table. Each of them had their assignments. Each of them had scripts they were to illustrate.

They set to work. Fast Artist drew a panel and Slow Artist drew a panel.

Then Fast Artist drew another panel and Slow Artist went and made some coffee.

Then Fast Artist drew another panel and Slow Artist drank his coffee and watched a little television.

Then Fast Artist drew another panel and Slow Artist went back to his drawing board and drew another panel.

Then Fast Artist drew two more panels and Slow Artist walked down to the deli to get a brisket sandwich on a kaiser roll with a side of slaw, a Dr. Brown's Cel-Ray Tonic, and a dish of rice pudding.

Then Fast Artist drew another panel and Slow Artist took his time walking back from lunch and stopped in at a bookstore to buy a Stephen King novel.

Then Fast Artist drew another panel and Slow Artist came back to the studio and drew another panel.

Then Fast Artist drew another panel and Slow Artist stopped to read a little of that Stephen King novel.

Then Fast Artist drew another panel and Slow Artist drew another panel.

Then Fast Artist drew another panel and Slow Artist made some phone calls.

It went like that all day. By the time they knocked off, Fast Artist had drawn three whole pages. Slow Artist had barely finished one page.

"Gee, I don't understand," Slow Artist said. "You draw so much faster than I do."

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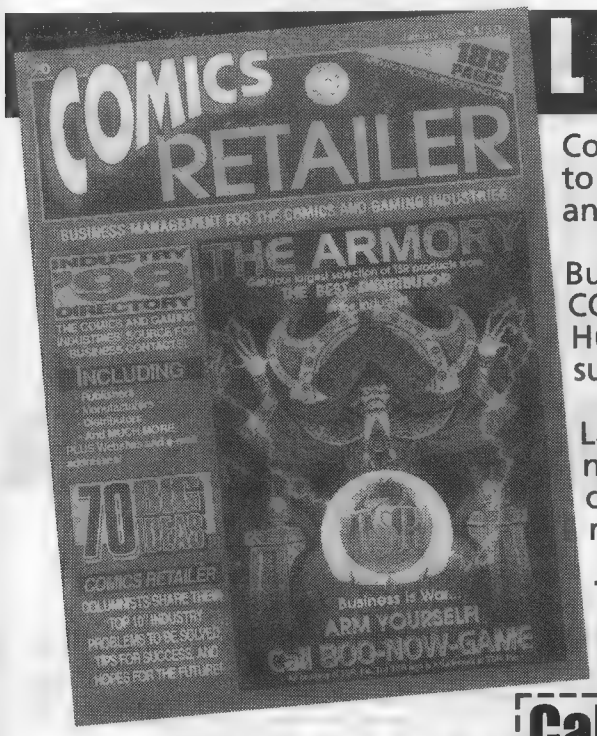

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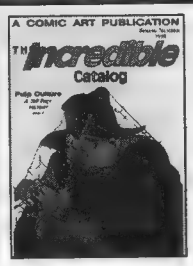

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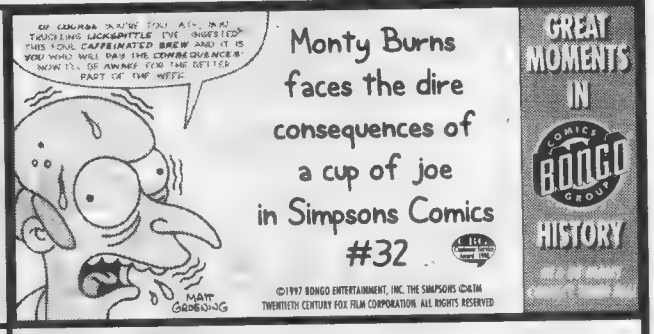

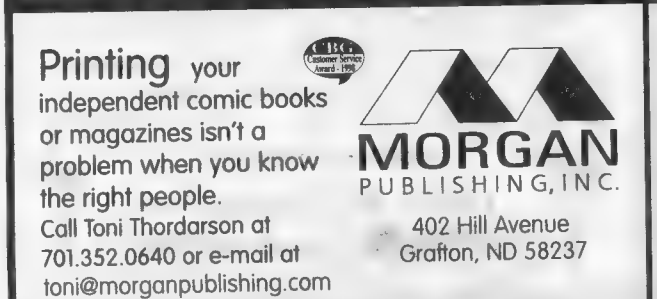

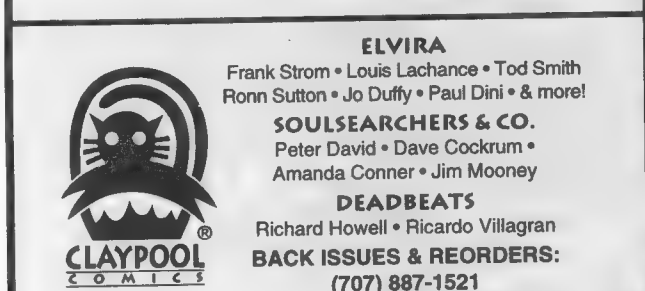

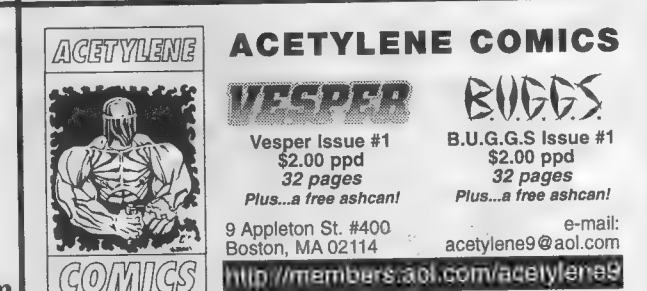

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Nov 8 CA, Los Angeles. Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention, Shrine Auditorium Expo Ctr. 700 W. 32nd St., SH: 10am-5pm, A: $5. Bruce Schwartz, 2319-A West Olive Ave., Burbank, CA 91506. PH: 818-954-8432.

Nov 15 CA, San Jose. Collectibles Show, Wyndham Hotel. 1350 N. 1st St., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 35, F: $50., A: $2. Al or Damon Jang, 3145 Geary Blvd. #270, San Francisco, CA 94118. PH: 415-386-9036.

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Nov 15 CT, Danbury. Cool-lectibles Show, Holiday Inn. 80 Newtown Rd., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 50-6', A: $2. Main Enterprizes, PH: 860-355-9960.

Nov 15 CT, Vernon. Comic Books, Sports Card & Toys Show, Quality Inn (The Colony). 51 Hartford Tpke., Rt. 83, SH: 9am-3pm, T: 42-6' & 8', F: $30.-$35., A: $.99, under 10 free. Joe Cushman, 101 S. Eagleville Rd., Storrs, CT 06268. PH. 860-429-3760.

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Nov 21 CT, Wallingford. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall. 382 Hope Hill Rd., Rt. 68 W. off Rt. 91, follow 68 to Hope Hill Rd., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 50-60 6', F: $20., A: $.99, under 12 free. Steve Clark, 40 Apple St., Wallingford, CT 06492. PH: 203-265-0531.

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Nov 29 CT, East Hartford. Comic Book Convention, Elks Hall. 148 Roberts St. (Exit 58 off of I-84), SH: 11am-5pm, T: 32, F: $40., A: $.99. The Bookie, Hal Kinney, 206 Burnside Ave., E. Hartford, CT 06108. PH: 860-289-1208 afternoons.

FLORIDA

Nov 7-8 FL, Orlando. Antique & Collectible Toy Super Show, Bahia Shrine Auditorium. 2300 Pembrook Dr., SH: Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, T: 200-8', A: $6 Mark Leinberger, PH: 561-694-7982 or Jon Jacobus, PH: 954-772-1420.

Nov 7-8 FL, W. Palm Beach. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanie Babies, NASCAR & Memorabilia Show, Palm Beach Mall. I-95 & Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., SH: Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 11am-6pm, T: 8', F: $125., A: free. Ron Tannebaum, PH: 954-916-3834.

Nov 14 FL, Ft. Lauderdale. South Florida Antique & Collectible Toy Super Show, Elks Exhibition Ctr., 700 NE 10th St., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 160-8', A: $6. Mark Leinberger, PH: 561-694-7982 or Jon Jacobus, PH: 954-772-1420.

Nov 14 FL, Ft. Lauderdale. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanie Babies & Memorabilia Show, Coral Ridge Mall. 3200 N. Federal Hwy., SH: 10am-6pm, T: 8', F: $75., A: free. Ron Tannebaum, PH: 954-916-3834.

Nov 14 FL, Tallahassee. Comic Book, Sports Card & Toys Show, Marzuq Shrine Temple. 1805 N. Monroe St., SH: 9am-4pm, T: 27, F: $38. for 1st, $27. for 2nd, A: free. Charlie Watson, 902 McGuire Ct., Tallahassee, FL 32303. PH: 850-386-5657.

Nov 15 FL, Tampa. MEGA-SHOW Comic Book & Toy Show, Best Western Hotel-Resort. 820 E. Busch Blvd. (I-275, Exit 33), SH: 10am-5pm, T: 50-6', F: $75., A: $4.50. Quantum Cat Entertainment, PO Box 3120, Winter Park, FL 32790. PH: 407-599-0905.

Nov 21-22 FL, Orlando. Comic Book, Toy & Sports Card Show, Colonial High School Junior Cafeteria. 6100 Oleandor, Sat. 10am-8pm, Sun. 10am-6pm, T: 100. George Smith, 16116 Hillside Cir., Montverde, FL 34756. PH: 407-469-3759.

Nov 22 FL, Orlando. Comic Books, Toys, Beanie Babies Collectible Show, Holiday Inn. 7900 S. Orange Blossom Trl., SH: 10am-4pm, F: $33., A: $4. Dale Burkhart, 8130 Icet Dr., Orlando, FL 32822. PH: 407-658-6768 home or 229-5752.

GEORGIA

Nov 7-8 GA, Kennesaw. All Stars Comic Book, Sports Cards & Collectibles Show, Kinder's Outlet Mall. 3333 George Busbee Pky., I-75 & Chastain Rd. (Exit 117), SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 50-8', F: $80., A: free. Jon White, 201 Thornwood Cr., Acworth, GA 30102. PH: 770-924-3491 home or 428-4980 Show Center.

Nov 21-22 GA, Kennesaw. All Stars Comic Book, Sports Cards & Collectibles Show, Kinder's Outlet Mall. 3333 George Busbee Pky., I-75 & Chastain Rd. (Exit 117), SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 50-8', F: $80., A: free. Jon White, 201 Thornwood Cr., Acworth, GA 30102. PH: 770-924-3491 home or 428-4980 Show Center.

Nov 21 GA, Augusta. Augustacon 29, Comic Books, Toys, Games & Videos Show, Holiday Inn West. I-20 & Washington Rd., SH: 10am-6pm, T: 30-6', F: $75. for 1, $200. for 3, A: $3. Paul Rogers, 1631 Gordon Hwy., Augusta, GA 30906. PH: 706-793-7796.

ILLINOIS

Nov 14 IL, Orland Park. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanies & Toy Show, Civic Ctr. 1 blk. W. of LaGrange Rd. (Rt. 45) at 147th St., SH: 9am-3pm, T: 85-6', F: $30., A: $1. John Leary, 9522 W. Shore Dr., Oak Lawn, IL 60453. PH: 708-423-1758.

Nov 15 IL, Peoria. Comicon, Signature Inn. 4112 Brandywine Dr., I-74, Exit 89 War Memorial, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 19, F: $25. for 1, $45. for 2, A: free. Alan Morton, PH: 309-657-1599 or Kevin, PH: 217-435-9625.

Nov 22 IL, Orland Park. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanies & Toy Show, Civic Ctr. 1 blk. W. of LaGrange Rd. (Rt. 45) at 147th St., SH: 9am-3pm, T: 85-6', F: $30., A: $1. John Leary, 9522 W. Shore Dr., Oak Lawn, IL 60453. PH: 708-423-1758.

INDIANA

Nov 7-8 IN, South Bend. Multi-Hobby Collectibles Show, Brentwood Center, Hall A. 3900 Lincolnway W. (US 20), 1 mi. E. of Airport, SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 25-35, A: free. Gene F. Haberstich, PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887 10am-midnight.

Nov 14-15 IN, Logansport. Multi-Hobby Collectibles Show, Mall. US 24 E., SH: Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 50-60, F: $65., A: free. Gene Haberstich, PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887 10am-midnight.

Nov 21-22 IN, South Bend. Multi-Hobby Collectibles Show, Brentwood Center, Hall A. 3900 Lincolnway W. (US 20), 1 mi. E. of Airport, SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 100, F: $60. for 1, $100. for 2, A: free. Gene F. Haberstich,

(Continues on Page 38)

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EVENTS
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PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887 10am-midnight.

Nov 22 IN, Indianapolis. Comic Book, Sports, Non-Sports, Die Cast Racing Cars & Collectibles Show, Holiday Inn East. 6990 E. 21st St., SH: 9am-4pm, T: 45, F: $30. for 1, $45. for 2, A: free. Mark Lopez, PH: 317-894-1115.

Nov 22 IN, Elkhart. Comicon, Weston Plaza. Corner of Cassopolis & CR 6, SH: 10am-5pm, T: 35-8', F: $50. for 1, $40. ea. for 2 or more. Hall of Heroes, Allen Stewart, 22818 Elm Dr., Elkhart, IN 46516. PH: 219-293-0755.

Nov 27 IN, Highland. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Lincoln Center. 2450 Lincoln St., from I-94 S. on Indianapolis Blvd., 4th traffic light turn L., SH: 6pm-9:30pm, T: 16-6', F: $15. for 2, A: free. Beth Gagliardi, 2450 Lincoln St., Highland, IN 46322 PH: 219-838-0114 8am-10pm.

Nov 28 IN, Hammond. Multi Hobby Collectibles Show, F.O.P. #51. 7527 Kennedy Ave., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 28, A: free. Gene Haberstich, PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887 10am-midnight.

Nov 28-29 IN, Goshen. Multi Hobby Collectibles Show, Inn. 1375 Lincolnway (US 20). SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 30, F: $40., A: free. Gene Haberstich, PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887 10am-midnight.

IOWA

Nov 7-8 IA, Marshalltown. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Center Mall. 2500 S. Center St., SH: Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 12noon-5pm, T: 30-8', F: $35., A: free. Scott or Jo Helgeson, 1000 E. Salem, Indianola, IA 50125. PH: 515-961-8286.

Nov 27-29 IA, Oskaloosa. Comic Book, Sports Cards & Toy Show, Penn Centre Mall. Hwy. 92 W., T: 45-8'. Stacey Craig, PH: 515-673-4087.

KENTUCKY

Nov 15 KY, Lexington. Comic Book & Toy Show, Holiday Inn South. I-75, Exit 104, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 6', F: $40. for 1, $35. ea. for 2 or more, A: $2., 12 & under free. Brian, PH: 513-522-1231.

LOUISIANA

Nov 14 LA, Metairie. Comic Book, Toys, Non-Sports Cards & Collectibles Show, Holiday Inn. 3400 I-10 Service Rd., Exit 228 Causeway S., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 35-6', F: $40. in advance, $45., A: $2. Kevin Frazier, 308 Shiloh Rd. #33, Brandon, MS 39042. PH: 601-825-1699.

MARYLAND

Nov 6-8 MD, Baltimore. Comic Book, BB Card & Beanie Baby Show. Security Square Mall, 695 Exit 17 Security Blvd. SH: mall hrs., T: 50-8', F: $110. Jay Grabowski, 3507 Lord Baltimore Way, Monkton, MD 21111. PH/FAX: 410-557-0660.

Nov 8 MD, Timonium. Comic Book, Non-Sports Cards & Action Figure Show, Holiday Inn. 2004 Greespring Dr. (Exit 16A off I83), SH: 11am-4pm, T: 20, F: $50., A: $2. PH: 410-783-1157.

Nov 22 MD, Pikesville. Comic Book, Toy & Non-Sports Card Show, Hilton. (Exit 20 off of 695), SH: 11am-4pm, T: 30-6', F: $60. for 1, $50. ea. add'l., A: $2. Bob Cook, 504 Heath Ave., Linthicum, MD 21090. PH: 410-789-4581.

Nov 29 MD, Rockville. Comic Book & Non-Sports Card Show, Best Western. 1251 W. Montgomery Ave., SH: 10am-3pm, F: $50. Jubilee Enterprises, 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587 or FAX: 301-203-0159.

MASSACHUSETTS

Nov 15 MA, South Attleboro. Comic Book, Toys, Non-Sports Card & Collectable Show, K of C Hall. Rt. 123, take Rt. 123 W., SH: 10am-3pm, T: 59, A: $3. Harry Martin, 936 South St., Wrenthan, MA 02093. PH: 508-384-8491.

Nov 21 MA, Taunton. Collectibles Show IV, VFW. Ingell St. (Rt. 24 to Exit 12, Rt. 140), SH: 10am-3pm, T: 50, A: $2., under 10 free. Bruce, PH: 508-883-6385.

MICHIGAN

Nov 15 MI, Lansing. Sparta Comic Book, Toys & Sports Card Show, Kellogg Center. MSU Campus Big Ten Room A, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 70-8', F: $40. in advance, $45. at the door, A: $2. Motor City Conventions, Michael Goldman, 19785 W. 12 Mile Rd. Ste. 231, Southfield, MI 48076. PH: 248-426-8059.

Nov 22 MI, Livonia. X-Trava Con Comic & Toy Show, Knights of Columbus. 19801 Farmington Rd. (bet. 7 Mile & 8 Mile Rd.), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 55-8', F: $35. in advance, $40. day of show, A: $2. Motor City Conventions, Michael Goldman, 19785 W. 12 Mile Rd. Ste. 231, Southfield, MI 48076. PH: 248-426-8059.

Nov 29 MI, Roseville. Comic & Toy Show, VFW. 10-1/2 & Gratiot, SH: 9am-3pm, T: 60, A: $3.Classic Productions, PO Box 472, Fraser, MI 48026. PH: 810-775-3289, 790-6290 or 939-4205.

MISSISSIPPI

Nov 15 MS, Jackson. Comic Book, Toys, Non-Sports Cards & Collectibles Show, Ramada Inn. 400 Greymont Ave., I-55 at High St. Exit, SH: 10am-5pm, T: 35-6', F: $40. in advance, $45., A: $2. Kevin Frazier, 308 Shiloh Rd. #33, Brandon, MS 39042. PH: 601-825-1699.

MISSOURI

Nov 29 MO, St. Louis. Spector Comic Book Show, Kolping House. 4035 Keokuk St., SH: 11am-3:30pm, T: 70, F: $25., A: $1.50. Anthony Gladish, 4253 Fatima Dr. #3, St. Louis, MO 63123. PH: 314-544-2812.

NEBRASKA

Nov 27-29 NE, Bellevue. Comic Book & BB Card Show, Southroads Mall. 1001 Fort Crook Rd., SH: Fri. & Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 12noon-5pm, T: 36-8', F: $125. for 3, A: free. Scott or Jo Helgeson, 1000 E. Salem, Indianola, IA 50125. PH: 515-961-8286.

NEW JERSEY

Nov 7 NJ, Bridgewater-Somerville. Comic Book Show, Finderne First Aid Sqd. 476 Union Ave. (Rt. 28) .5 mi. W. of Rt. 287 (Exit 13), SH: 9:30am-4pm, T: 20-8', F: $35., A: $1. Fred Feliciano, Jr., PO Box 13, Middlesex, NJ 08816. PH: 732-748-1975.

Nov 8 NJ, Elmwood Park. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, American Legion Post #147. Legion Pl. (1 blk. W. of Midland Ave. off Market St.), SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 50-6', F: $30. for 1, $55. for 2, A: $1., under 7 free. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct. N., Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 201-796-9717 day of show.

Nov 8 NJ, Tinton Falls. Comic Books, Cards & Toys Show, Holiday Inn. Parkway Exit 105, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 40-6', F: $45., A: $1.50. Dan Campbell, 125 Porter Rd., Howell, NJ 07731. PH: 732-364-8532.

Nov 8 NJ, Clifton. Comic Book Expo, Community Recreation Ctr. 1232 Main Ave. (Rt. 46 to Piaget Ave. to Main Ave.), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 30-6', F: $45., A: free. J. Paul, 10 Cross St., Montclair, NJ 07042. PH: 973-783-0608.

Nov 8 NJ, Seaside Heights. Atomicon II Comic Books & Collectibles Show, American Legion Shore Boro Post 351. 1400 Bay Blvd., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 25, F: $50., A: $2., 12 & under free. Surf Pirates Productions, PH: 732-854-1880.

Nov 14-15 NJ, S. Plainfield. World of Comics & Cards Conventions, Middlesex Mall. Hadley & Stelton Rds., SH: Sat. 10am-9:30pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 85-8', F: Sat. $100., Sun. $65. for 1 day, $150. for 2 days, A: free. Anthony Grimando, PO Box 23, Dunellen, NJ 08812. PH/FAX: 732-968-3886.

Nov 14 NJ, Saddle Brook. Comic Book, Non-Sports Cards, Toys & Beanie Baby Show, Howard Johnsons Plaza Hotel. 129 Pehle Ave. (Exit 159 off the GSP), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 50, A: $4., $2. under 10. Candy Panda Productions, Inc., PH: 732-636-9518.

Nov 15 NJ, Garfield. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, Boys & Girls Club. 490 Midland Ave., SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 60-8', F: $35. for 1, $65. for 2, A: $1., under 7 free. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct. N., Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 478-7662 day of show.

Nov 15 NJ, Hazlet. Antique & Collectible Comic Book, Toy, Lineups & Action Figure Show, Hazlet Hotel. 2870 Hwy. 35 (Pky. Exit 117 to Hwy. 35 S. 2 mi.) (formerly Ramada), SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 45. Collectors Showcase, Sandy Grecco, PO Box 189, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716. PH: 732-291-1632.

Nov 22 NJ, Clifton. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, Boys & Girls Club. 802 Clifton Ave., SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 50-8', F: $35. for 1, $65. for 2, A: $1., under 7 free. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct. N., Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 779-9332 day of show.

Nov 29 NJ, Garfield. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, Boys & Girls Club. 490 Midland Ave., SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 60-8', F: $35. for 1, $65. for 2, A: $1., under 7 free. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct. N., Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 478-7662 day of show.

NEW MEXICO

Nov 8 NM, Albuquerque. Collectors Con, Marriott Hotel. 2101 Louisana Blvd. NE, across from Winrock Mall, SH: 9am-3pm, T: 46-6', F: $30., A: $1. Comic Warehouse, Shane, 9617 Menaul NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112. PH: 505-293-3065 or Henry, PH: 505-831-3253 or FAX: 505-237-1000.

NEW YORK

Nov 6 NY, Brooklyn. Fri. Nite Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports Card, Toys, Action Figure & Collectibles Show, St. Dominics Church. 20th Ave. & Bayridge Pky. (75 St.), SH: 6pm-10pm, T: 50-9', F: $40. for 1, $75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Nov 6-8 NY, Niagara Falls. Collector Mania, Convention Ctr. 405 4th St., SH: Fri. 5pm-9pm, Sat. & Sun. 10am-4pm, T: 500-8', F: $125. for 1, $225. for 2, $300. for 3, A: $4. Allan George, 101 Harvest Rd., Fairport, NY 14450. PH: 716-248-2987 or 342-7040.

Nov 7 NY, Sayville-LI. Comic Book, Action Figures & Non-Sports Card Show, Attias Indoor Flea Market. 5750 Sunrise Hwy. & Broadway, SH: 10am-6pm, T: 35, A: free. Paul DeCarlo, PH: 516-289-7398.

Nov 8 NY, Rockville Centre. LI Comic Book & Collectors Market Convention, Holiday Inn. 173 Sunrise Hwy., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 40, F: $60., A: free. Cosmic Comics, 246 Merrick Rd., Oceanside, NY 11572. PH: 516-763-1133.

Nov 8 NY, Brooklyn. Comic Book, BB Cards, Beanies Babies, Toys & Collectibles Show, Temple Hillel of Flatlands. 2164 Ralph Ave. (at Ave. L), SH: 10am-5pm, T: 50-8', F: $40. for 1, $75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Nov 8 NY, Buffalo. Queen City Comic Con, Marriott Hotel. Millersport Hwy., Exit 50B off of Rt. 290, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 8', A: $3.50, under 5 free. Chautauqua Comics, PH: 716-484-9631.

Nov 8 NY, Brooklyn-NYC. Toymania-Comic Books, Sports Card & Toys Show, Marriott. 333 Adams St., A: $6. PH: 718-805-3789 or 212-888-2487 dealer info.

Nov 12 NY, Deer Park. Comic Books, Action Figures & Non-Sports Card Show, Sons of Italy Lodge. 2075 Deer Park Ave., SH: 5:30pm-10pm, T: 40. Paul DeCarlo, PH: 516-289-7398

Nov 13-14 NY, Manhattan. Big Apple Comic Book & Toy Convention, St. Paul Church. 9th Ave. 60th St., SH: Fri. 12noon-8pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, T: 115, A: $6. Mike or Chris, 74-05 Metropolitan Ave., Middle Village, NY 11379. PH: 718-326-2713.

Nov 14 NY, Staten Island. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, St. Sylvester's School. 884 Targee St., Clove-Richmond Rd., Exit 278, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 40-9', F: $50., A: free. Joe Dezio, 884 Targee St., Staten Island, NY 10804. PH: 718-351-8056.

Nov 14-15 NY, Yonkers. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Mall at Cross County. 750 Central Ave., SH: 10am-6pm, T: 40-8', F: $125., A: free. Steve Tepper, 57-65 59th St., Maspeth, NY 11378. PH: 718-894-5310 or 516-379-8300.

Nov 20 NY, Brooklyn. Fri. Nite Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports Card, Toys, Action Figure & Collectibles Show, St. Dominics Church. 20th Ave. & Bayridge Pky. (75 St.), SH: 6pm-10pm, T: 50-9', F: $40. for 1, $75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Nov 21 NY, Sayville-LI. Comic Book, Action Figures & Non-Sports Card Show, Attias Indoor Flea Market. 5750 Sunrise Hwy. & Broadway, SH: 10am-6pm, T: 35, A: free. Paul DeCarlo, PH: 516-289-7398.

Nov 22 NY, Ozone Park-Queens. Comic Book, Sports Card & Memorabilia Show. Jewish Center. 107-01 Crossbay Blvd., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 36-8', F: $37.50 for 1, $65. for 2, A: $1. Joseph Caruana, 114-32 150th Ave., S. Ozone Park, NY 11420. PH: 718-845-7240 or 848-1795.

Nov 22 NY, Brooklyn. Comic Book, BB Cards, Beanies Babies, Toys & Collectibles Show, Temple Hillel of Flatlands. 2164 Ralph Ave. (at Ave. L), SH: 10am-5pm, T: 50-8', F: $40. for 1, $75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Nov 27 NY, Brooklyn. Fri. Nite Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports Card, Toys, Action Figure & Collectibles Show, St. Dominics Church. 20th Ave. & Bayridge Pky. (75 St.), SH: 11am-11pm, T: 80-9', F: $50., A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Nov 27-28 NY, Yonkers. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Mall at Cross County. 750 Central Ave., SH: 10am-6pm, T: 40-8', F: $125., A: free. Steve Tepper, 57-65 59th St., Maspeth, NY 11378. PH: 718-894-5310 or 516-379-8300.

Nov 28 NY, New York City. Comic Book, Sports Cards & Memorabilia Show, St. Illuminators Cathedral. 221 E. 27th St., btw. 2nd & 83rd Ave., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 25-8', F: $40., A: $1. Edmond Elmokian, 18 Oakland Ave., W. Hempstead, NY 11552. PH: 516-564-9319.

Dec 4 NY, Brooklyn. Fri. Nite Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports Card, Toys, Action Figure & Collectibles Show, St. Dominics Church. 20th Ave. & Bayridge Pky. (75 St.), SH: 6pm-10pm, T: 50-9', F: $40. for 1, $75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

NORTH CAROLINA

Nov 8 NC, Asheville. Comic Book Festival, Comfort Suites Hotel. Exit 2 off I-26, SH: 10am-5pm, F: sold out, A: free. D.W. Howard, 697 Brevard Rd., Asheville, NC 28806. PH: 828-665-2800.

Nov 14-15 NC, Concord. 11th Toy Collectors Show, Cabarrus Cty. Fairgrounds. Hwy. 29 & Cabarrus Ave., SH: Sat. 9am-4pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, F: $35., A: $3. Carolina Hobby Expo, PH: 704-786-8373 after 4pm.

Nov 15 NC, Winston Salem. Comic Book, Toy, Beanie & Card Show, Holiday Inn. (Now called the Inn at Hanes Mall), I-40, Silas Creek Pky. S., first L. (Hawthorne), SH: 10am-5pm, F: $40., A: $3. Bret Parks, PH: 336-591-7389.

Nov 21-22 NC, Greensboro. 11th Annual Antique & Collectible Toy & Doll Show, Coliseum Complex. SH: Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, T: 700, A: $5., $1. ages 6-12. Southeastern Collectible Expo, 1819 Peeler Rd., Vale, NC 28168. PH: 704-276-1670.

OHIO

Nov 8 OH, Marietta. Parkersburg-Marietta Comic Con, Holiday Inn. I-77 at Exit 176 (Rt. 50), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 30-6', F: $45. for 1, $110. for 3, A: $2., 6 & under free. Jeff Harper, 5220 Loma Linda NE, Canton, OH 44714. PH: 330-499-6056.

Nov 8 OH, Columbus. Comic Book & Toy Show, Holiday Inn East. I-70 & Hamilton Rd., Exit 107, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 6', F: $40. for 1, $35. ea. for 2 or more, A: $2., 12 & under free. Brian, PH: 513-522-1231.

Nov 14-15 OH, Middleburg Hts. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Tri-City Senior Ctr. 16699 E. Bagley Rd., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 55-6', F: $55. for 1, $45. ea. add'l., A: $1.50, 10 & under free. L&K Promotions, Kris Herman, PH: 330-677-9675.

Nov 14-15 OH, Maumee-Toledo. Comic Book, Toy & Hobby Expo '98, Lucas Cty. Recreation Ctr. 2901 Key St. (Fairgrounds), SH: Sat. 11am-7pm, Sun. 9am-5pm. R.R. Promos., Inc., PO Box 6094, Plymouth, MI 48170. PH/FAX: 734-455-2110.

Nov 22 OH, Cleveland-Richfield. Saturday's Child Comic Book Show & Nostalgiafest, Holiday Inn. On OH Rt. 21 (4742 Brecksville Rd.), just S. of OH Tpke. Exit 11, SH: 11am-4pm, T: 60-6', F: $50., A: $2. Joe Tricarichi, 2520 Ashurst Rd., Cleveland, OH 44118. PH: 216-932-8596.

Nov 28-29 OH, Columbus. Mid Ohio Con, Adams Mark Hotel. 50 N. 3rd St., SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm, T: 150-6', A: $10. for 1 day, $15. for both days. R.A.P. Prods., Roger Price, PO Box 3831, Mansfield, OH 44907. PH: 419-526-1427 weekdays 9am-5pm.

PENNSYLVANIA

Nov 8 PA, Allentown. Comic Book, Magic & Non-Sports Card Show, Holiday Inn West. I-78, Exit 14A, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 30-6', F: $50. for 1st, $30. for 2nd, $25. ea. add'l., A: $2. Comicquest, Tom Jones, 1328 Chestnut St., Emmaus, PA 18049 PH: 610-966-0199.

Nov 15 PA, Erie. Comic Book, Magic & Non-Sports Card Show, Avalon Hotel. I-90. Exit 6 then Peach St. to 10th St., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 30-6', F: $50. for 1st, $30. for 2nd, $25. ea. add'l., A: $2. Comicquest, Tom Jones, 1328 Chestnut St., Emmaus, PA 18049. PH: 610-966-0199

Nov 22 PA, Philadelphia. Comic-Con, Stadium Holiday Inn. 10th St. & Packer Ave., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 45, F: $60., A: $3. Derek Woywood, 10 Chelsea Cir., Clementon, NJ 08021. PH: 609-782-0817.

TENNESSEE

Nov 7 TN, Chattanooga. Antique & Collectible Toy & Doll Show, Convention Centers, North Hall. SH: 9am-4pm, T: 200, A: $4., $1. ages 6-12. Southeastern Collectible Expo, 1819 Peeler Rd., Vale, NC 28168. PH: 704-276-1670.

Nov 8 TN, Memphis. Comic Book, Toys, Non-Sports Cards & Collectibles Show, Ramada Inn. 1471 E. Brooks Rd., Exit 5A off I-55, SH: 10am-5pm, T: 35-6', F: $40. in advance, $45., A: $2. Kevin Frazier, 308 Shiloh Rd. #33, Brandon, MS 39042. PH: 601-825-1699.

Nov 14 TN, Murfreesboro. Comic Book, Sports Card & Toy Show, Ramada Limited. I-24, Exit 81-B, SH: 8am-4:30pm, T: 45-6', F: $25., A: free. John McGill, 1315 W. Northfield, Murfreesboro, TN 37129. PH: 615-893-1140.

Nov 14 TN, Morristown. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectible Show, Talley-Ward Recreation & Civic Ctr. 324 S. James St., SH: 9am-4pm, T: 45-8', F: $35., A: free. Bill Henderson, 346 Fuller Estate Cir., Morristown, TN 37813. PH: 423-581-8386 or 581-3041.

TEXAS

Nov 14-15 TX, Austin. Collectors Expo, Palmer Auditorium, (lower level). South First & Riverside, SH: Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, T: 175, F: $80., A: $3. good for 2 days, under 12 free with adult. Sally Wallace, 6702 Lexington Rd., Austin, TX 78757. PH: 512-454-9882.

Nov 14-15 TX, Houston. Nostalgia Promotions Collectors Show, Holiday Inn. 7787 Katy Fwy., I-10 W. at Antoine Exit, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 70, F: $50. ea per day, A: $3., 12 & under free. Nostalgia Promotions, Andy Mingle, PH: 281-748-5154.

Nov 15 TX, El Paso. Comic Book & Toy Show, Quality Inn. I-10 at Geronimo, SH: 9am-5pm, T: 34-8'. Art Wagner, 3814 Mobile Ave., El Paso, TX 79930. PH: 915-564-4757 or 532-2040

Nov 22 TX, Houston. Sci-Fi Expo & Toy Show, Holiday Inn Select. 2712 Southwest Freeway at Kirby, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 65, F: $35., A: $5. Ben Stevens, PO Box 941111, Plano, TX 75094. PH: 972-578-0213.

Nov 29 TX, El Paso. Comic Book & Toy Show, Quality Inn. I-10 at Geronimo, SH: 9am-5pm, T: 34-8'. Art Wagner, 3814 Mobile Ave., El Paso, TX 79930. PH: 915-564-4757 or 532-2040.

WASHINGTON

Nov 14-15 WA, Kirkland. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Totem Lake Mall. Exit 20B E. off I-405, SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 60. Twin Oaks Sportshows, 1242 State Ave., Ste. 1-214, Marysville, WA 98270. PH: 360-653-5527.

Nov 15 WA, Seattle. Com-Card & Toys Convention #29, Seattle Ctr. Northwestern Room. 101 Republican St., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 150-8', F: $80., A: $5. Steve Miner, PO Box 55853, Seattle, WA 98155. PH: 425-774-1781.

Nov 21-22 WA, Puyallup. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Western WA State Fairgrounds. Meridian St. Pavilion Bldg., SH: Sat. & Sun. 10am-5pm, T: 50. Twin Oaks Sportshows, 1242 State Ave., Ste. 1-214, Marysville, WA 98270. PH: 360-653-5527.

Dec 4-6 WA, Kirkland. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Totem Lake Mall. Exit 20B E. off I-405, SH: Fri. 10am-9pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 50. Twin Oaks Sports Shows, 1242 State Ave. Ste. 1-214, Marysville, WA 98270. PH: 360-653-5527.

WEST VIRGINIA

Nov 8 WV, Parkersburg-Marietta. Comic Con, Holiday Inn. I-77 at Exit 176 (Rt. 50), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 30-6', F: $45. for 1, $110. for 3, A: $2., 6 & under free. Jeff Harper, 5220 Loma Linda NE, Canton, OH 44714. PH: 330-499-6056.

WISCONSIN

Nov 8 WI, Madison. Cool Stuff Collectibles Show, Quality Inn Hotel. SE 4916 E. Broadway, just off I-90 & Hwy. 12 & 18, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 90, F: $25. Lisa Fiegel, PH: 920-623-0111.

Nov 22 WI, Madison. Cool Stuff Collectibles Show, Quality Inn. 4916 E. Broadway (just off I-90 & Hwy. 12 & 18), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 100-6', F: $25., A: $1. Lisa, PH: 920-623-0111.

CANADA

Nov 21-22 ON, Toronto. Comicfreek 98, International Centre. 6900 Airport Rd. at Derry Rd., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 150-8', F: $225., A: $8. for 1 day, $12. for 2 days. Carmine DeSanto, I-422 N. Rivermede Rd., Concord, ON L4K 3R5. PH: 905-761-2185.

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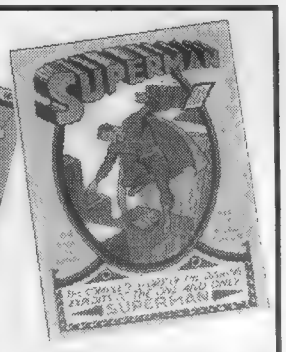

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COMICS IN YOUR FUTURE

Publisher's Picks & Retailer Reviews

For December releases

A number of publishers were recently asked to choose, from the material they have scheduled to ship in December, which titles they felt would be most worthy of the attention of readers and collectors. Participating retailers were then asked to predict how popular each title will be and to grade each preview from A+ to F, according to how successful they found it as a work of art or entertainment.

Legends of the DC Universe: Crisis on Infinite Earths

DC, 64 pages, color, $4.95

Crisis on Infinite Earths writer Marv Wolfman returns to his maxi-series to write an extra chapter. Illustrated by Paul Ryan and Bob McLeod, the one-shot relates the final adventures of the Silver Age Flash and the original Supergirl) before they met their fates in *Crisis* and is set between issues #4 and #5 of the maxi-series.

Mateer: This really does read like a "lost chapter" of *Crisis*, with the Ryan/McLeod art using elements of the George Pérez style (lots of smaller panels with lots of detail; very clean inking; ability to draw many characters without making them generic), but managing to maintain its own integrity, too. The Wolfman script fits seamlessly into the earlier series and offers an effective evocation of a doomed alternate DC Earth, where the JLA characters are more diverse but have kept their Silver-Age moral structure intact. ("Ours isn't a violent Earth," its Batman says to the regular one.) Good, solid comics storytelling, and just about any DC fan would like it. **B+**.

Bahls: It is a return to one of the classic tales of comicdom. DC's *Crisis on Infinite Earths* has been one of the definitive storylines that many others have been compared to. This title will be a must-have for any DC reader. Watching Batman meet Batman, Robin meet Robin, *etc.*, provides enjoyable reading. **A**.

Bennett: "Nostalgia" probably isn't the best selling point for newer readers, but this issue of *Legends of the DC Universe* really deserves its title. And even those who didn't experience *Crisis* firsthand will be swept up in the sudden twists and turns of that groundbreaking series. After too long an absence from super-hero comics, Marv Wolfman has crafted a story rich with all the charms and wonders of the genre. **B**.

Biggers: A very good story, but there's no way it can measure up to the original, either in script or art. Think of it as an interesting sidenote to the upcoming compilation but not an essential part of the story. Of course, if you compare it to anything else, it's a superlative comic book. **A-**.

Keeney: This fun and campy addition to *Crisis on Infinite Earths* is beautifully illustrated with George Pérez-like art and faithful dialogue and plot lines — but ultimately adds little insight to the classic story. It does give a glimpse of an interesting alternative Earth and we do get to see Barry Allan, one of DC's long-gone dynamic characters, in action. Even with a few inconsistencies and problems (a funeral for fallen friend Superman but no mention of Hawkman or Hawkwoman who died in the same fight), it is above-average nostalgic reading for both old and new DC fans. **B**.

Retailers' grade: B+

Retailer panelists reviewing December titles:

Peggy Bahls
Cosmic Comics, Helena, MT

S.A. Bennett
Dark Star Books & Comics, Yellow Springs, OH

Cliff Biggers
Dr. No's Comics, Marietta, GA

Mike Keeney
Comic Corner, Huntsville, AL

Phil Mateer
All about Books and Comics, Phoenix, AZ

Poison Elves Color Special #1

Sirius, 32 pages, color, $2.95

Sirius' Robb Horan says, "*Poison Elves Color Special* is Drew Hayes' first full-sized, full-color comic book ever. To celebrate this milestone, Drew has created an all-new 16-page story starring Lusiphur's ex-wife Hyena, and the wizard Tenth. It ties up a few of the loose ends from the end of the 'Sanctuary' story arc." The story leads into the *Hyena* mini-series scheduled for late 1999. Two stories of Lusiphur's past round out the issue.

Bahls: A trio of tales to bridge the gap between the now-completed "Sanctuary" storyline and the upcoming "Hyena" mini-series.

"The Crow," a take-off on Edgar Allan Poe's *The Raven* is a masterpiece of humor. This is a poem that can interest new *Poison Elves* fans as well as delight current readers. **A-**.

Keeney: Two guys walking down the street talking about nothing coherent meet a stranger and kill him. Meanwhile, two nameless and virtually identical ghouls pose and threaten each other with their "rides" and other obscure things. The end.

This riveting plot is followed by a juvenile rewriting of *The Raven*, complete with inside jokes and elementary-school humor.

This project, about as deep as a glass of water, would be a laudable first effort — but *Poison Elves* has been around for more than five years. **D-**

Biggers: A stunning issue. *Poison Elves* is always a very strong comic book and has a strong style in its black-and-white format — but give Drew Hayes some good colorists and he outdoes himself! **A**.

Bennett: *Poison Elves* has never gotten a tremendous amount of attention or press, but it has a devoted following, and this color special is a good opportunity for new readers to see why. Unique, this jaundiced look at sword and sorcery fantasy is perfect for anyone who's allergic to elves. **B**.

Mateer: The preview for this only included the two backup stories, but it's an easy call: Drew Hayes fans will love it. The coloring enhances the art (not always true when an artist has an ingrained black-and-white style), and the overall design work is nice. Would new readers pick this up? Hard to tell without the main story included, but it's good enough that it might open *Poison Elves* up to a wider audience. **B-**.

Retailers' grade: B-

Star Wars #1

Dark Horse, 32 pages, color, $2.50

Dark Horse's first ongoing monthly *Star Wars* series with a sequential storyline features Ki-Adi-Mundi, a famous Jedi Knight who has trouble convincing the low-tech people of his homeworld to allow him to protect them from the high-tech wants and needs of their children. The series is written by Jan Strnad with art by Anthony Winn and Robert Jones, with covers by Ken Kelly.

Bennett: In spite of the fact Dark Horse's *Star Wars* comics have always featured top-notch creators, been steady sellers (even when there's as many as five different mini-series running concurrently!), and had a faithful fan base, they've always been "stealth" comics — over there, under-appreciated, nearly invisible.

Hopefully, this excellent ongoing series will wake people up — it's only a matter of months until Episode One arrives. **B.**

Mateer: When I first heard of a new monthly *Star Wars* title, I thought of a *Simpsons* line about a similar franchise ("Star Trek VII: So Very Tired ..."), but Dark Horse has dodged that bullet by setting this a generation before the Luke, Leia, and Han stories. They've also hired Jan Strnad, who has the science-fiction and characterization chops to pull off a self-contained story that's set in the *Star Wars* universe but without any of the continuing characters.

This could have been mediocre, but it's better than that: It's a decent science-fiction story in its own right, about a lone Jedi and his struggle for the hearts of his people against the encroaching political might of the Empire. Maybe that's why Dark Horse has kept the rights to this series for so long, even in the face of much bigger competition. **B.**

Biggers: I've already let my biases be known when it comes to *Star Wars*, so take that as a critical *caveat* — for me, it ain't *Star Wars* without Luke, Leia, and Han. What's here is very well crafted, but ... **B.**

Keeney: *Star Wars* #1 is a simple, accessible story that fits nicely into the pre-"New Hope" Star Wars universe. The plot borrows a lot from the technology versus nature rhetoric of the 1970s mixed with a little *Romeo and Juliet* and a sprinkle of *Star Wars* ideas. The art is flashy and in your face. The science fiction is more fiction than science. Overall, this is a pretty good comic book, and *Star Wars* fans of all ages should enjoy it. **B-.**

Bahls: A combination of good talent is joining forces to bring this story to readers. This is a definitive issue that will be a good starting point for new readers as well as entertaining for continuing fans. **B.**

Retailers' grade: B

Neon Genesis Evangelion Book II

Viz, 168 pages, b/w, $15.95

This trade paperback collects the five-issue second *Neon Genesis Evangelion* series. Set in 2015, the story features a reluctant pilot who has to save the remaining half of the world's population from being wiped out by giant "Angels."

Mateer: I'm tempted to call this series *Robotech Maison Ikkoku*, with its combination of giant robots and psychological not-quite-romance. Collecting this series into graphic novel form loses the waiting-for-each-installment soap-opera quality of the monthly comic book, but it's worth it to get all five episodes into one package. Even readers who have the individual issues might want the compilation, although at $15.95 each, there won't be much margin for extras. Viz is offering one version of it in Japanese format, printed left to right and with the original manga sound effects preserved. Be sure to let your dealers know which version you want. **B+.**

Keeney: Fast-paced action and beautifully choreographed giant robot battles are not the only things that make *Neon Genesis Evangelion* one of the most popular Japanese comics in America. Its success stems also from its intense, unique, and varied characters. For example, the main character, Shinji, is not a typical hero. He is selfish, self-indulgent, childish, and suicidal. He cares little for anyone, including himself, because he feels people see him only as a weapon, not a person. You may not like them, but the characters are so well-refined and fleshed-out that it is hard not to see yourself in one of them. This is not your typical manga or your typical comic book. It is well worth looking into. **A.**

Bennett: This is a giant robot saga — the same way *Twin Peaks* was a cop show. *Neon Genesis* has all the trappings of the genre, but with vicious twists on the clichés and stereotypes. The monstrous alien "angels" which threaten all mankind are inexplicable, and our 14-year-old "hero" is clearly suicidal and unable to connect emotionally with anyone. (Please, somebody, give the kid a hug!) Not as deep or obscure as it'd like to be, but the psychological drama is genuinely engaging, and the art and story first-rate. **B.**

Bahls: For fans of anime and manga alike, this is a must. *Evangelion* has been one of the most watched and talked-about series for thousands of fans. This follows the video series accurately and provides clear, crisp art enhancing the thought-provoking storyline. **A-**

Retailers' grade: A-

Love in Tights #1

Slave Labor Graphics, 32 pages, b/w, $2.95

Slave Labor's Dan Vado says, "*Love in Tights* contains tales of lovers who happen to be crime-fighters. Love literally taking flight. Romance, drama, action (and we do mean action), plus more than a few laughs, brought to you by some promising new talent and critically acclaimed alternative press favorites."

Bennett: All too quietly, Slave Labor's Amaze Ink has been producing some of the best black-and-white comics in the industry, and *Love in Tights* is a good addition to the line. Anthologies are always a "hit or miss" proposition, but there's at least a couple of solid singles here, and it features a cover that seems destined to become a T-shirt. **B.**

Bahls: The story "Crash Course" was an enjoyable tale with a twist. This has the added bonus for all manga readers in that it was written by Takeshi Miyazawa in the manga style so popular with many readers today. **C.**

Biggers: A mixed package. Some of the stories are great, some are flat. It never fails to entertain, but you come away wishing every story had measured up to the issue's best. **B.**

Keeney: "Crash Course," the first feature in this uneven anthology is an excellent comics story with great art, fresh dialogue, and charming characters. Unfortunately, the remaining stories pale in comparison. Amateurish art, trite plot, and confusing dialogue make for below-average reading. The concept for *Love in Tights* is great fun, but the content of each issue needs to be more consistent. **C+.**

Mateer: The cover makes this look like a satiric, smart-alecky romance comic book focusing on super-heroes. It really isn't — it's more of a straight realistic superhero comic book (the promo compares it to *Astro City*, although it isn't on that rarified level), with some romantic overtones. Creator J. Torres has a knack for characterization, and the various artists turn in good work, although some of this suffers from Anthology Syndrome: It's more a series of quick scenes than a set of actual stories. (The one piece with a promising plot didn't have the ending included, and so could end up brilliant or clichéd or somewhere in between.) Alternative-comics fans should at least give it a look. **C+.**

Retailers' grade: B-

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– S.I. Hayakawa

Now Appearing

*[**Editor's Note:** Send items for this feature to **Now Appearing**, c/o **Comics Buyer's Guide**, 700 E. State St., Iola, Wis. 54990 or fax it (again c/o CBG) to (715) 445-4087.]*

Special 'Now Appearing' note: Creators from South Jersey Rebellion Productions, publishers of **Tony DiGerolamo's** *Jersey Devil* and *The Travelers*, will be signing every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday night in October, weather permitting, at Frightland in Middletown, **Delaware** just off of Rt. 13, from 7 to 11 p.m. each night. (Frightland is a Halloween amusement park that sets up one month a year.)

October 30

Harlan Ellison (prolific award-winning writer) at Arlington Street Church, 20 Arlington St., at the corner of Boylston St., Boston, **Massachusetts** beginning at 7 p.m.

Colleen Doran (creator of *A Distant Soil* and artist on *Wonder Woman: The Once and Future Story*) at Jim Hanley's Universe, 4 W. 33rd St., New York, **New York** 10001, from 5 to 7 p.m.

October 31

Tom Grindberg (artist of various Superman titles) at Steve's Comic Relief, 1231 Stella Pkwy., Plaza Rt. 166, Toms River, **New Jersey** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m.

Harlan Ellison (prolific award-winning writer) at 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, **Massachusetts** from 10 a.m. to noon.

Nicholas Brendan and **Juliet Landau** (Xander and Drusilla on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*) at Metro Entertainment, 6 W. Anapamu, Santa Barbara, **California** 93101, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Jerry Decaire (artist of *Wolverine* #47, *Uncanny X-Men Annual* #15, and *Thor Annual* #19) at Midgard Comics, 102 W. Lincoln, Charleston, **Illinois** from noon to 3 p.m.

November 2

Jeremy Bullock (Boba Fett) and **Femi Taylor** (Oola) from *Star Wars* at Sarge's Comics Megastore, 124 State St., New London, **Connecticut** from 4 to 8 p.m.

The sheer variety of the review items that come my way never ceases to amaze, amuse, and please me. Certainly, much of it is not as well-crafted as I would like, but the volume does affirm there are many people who are truly passionate about the comics art form. Sure, sometimes I fear there are more people who want to *make* comic books than want to *read* them but, for the most part, their passion is a very good thing.

When I first started writing this column, I told myself that I would only review comic books I really liked. I was never asked to review only things I liked, but I felt doing otherwise would be a waste of my column space and my time. I was wrong.

While I certainly prefer to recommend comic books I believe my readers will enjoy, I do them an equal service by warning them off publications I do not believe they will enjoy. In a finite market, which is certainly what the comics industry is facing at present, it's a buyer's market. That buyer generally has limited funds to spend on comic books. The two or three or 10 bucks he or she does *not* spend on a less-than-wonderful comic book might go to the purchase of a truly wonderful comic book. More than ever, it's survival of the fittest.

Let's take a look at some recent arrivals. Please assume the ***Spoiler Warnings*** are in place.

"Sometimes I fear there are more people who want to *make* comic books than want to *read* them."

☞ If ***Bearskin***, a graphic novel by Gareth Hinds and published by Thecomic.com, has a price anywhere on or within its 84 pages, said price has eluded my every effort to locate it. Produced with the assistance of a Xeric Foundation grant, *Bearskin* is an adaptation of the Grimms' tale about a warrior who strikes a bargain with the devil. If the warrior spends seven years "without bathing, cutting [his] hair or nails, combing, shaving, brushing [his] teeth, changing [his] clothes, or sleeping in a bed" and survives those years without dying, limitless wealth will be his. If he dies, his soul will be claimed by the devil.

Hinds' storytelling shows some promise, but *Bearskin* itself is not very interesting. The lead character barely comes alive in the course of the tale; the secondary characters never do. Ultimately, we don't care much what happens to *any* of them. Whatever this one-shot costs, you can do better elsewhere.

☞ A more much enjoyable experience can be had by reading ***Bohos*** #1 (Image, $2.95) by Maggie Whorf and Byron Penaranda. This slice-of-life comic book focuses on Seattle teenager Catherine Wheal, whose mom died recently — What is this, a Disney flick? — and her closest friends. Whorf's opening captions are a little ponderous, but they do serve to introduce her characters quickly. After that, I found her dialogue to be very real, very sharp, and a delight to read. I also liked Penaranda's artwork a lot.

This issue of *Bohos* is your basic day-in-the-life tale of young protagonists. There were no senses-shattering battles or big emotional scenes. It was a nicely told "what we did today" kind of thing. It worked for me and would go over even better with preteen and young teen readers. Check it out.

☞ ***Hopster's Tracks*** #1 (Bongo, $2.95) is a wacky "funny animals" title by the sensational Stephanie Gladden. The story runs a bit long and would have benefitted from color, but how can I not love a story with a giant mechanical dinosaur in it? *Hopster's Tracks* may not have the recognition factor of the "as seen on TV" cartoon comics but it holds its own with them. It might be just the thing for a younger reader who wants something he or she can't see on television.

☞ I confess that I have little to no clue as to what's going on in ***Kabuki*** #3 (Image, $2.95). This is the first *Kabuki* comic book I've read and it doesn't have a "what has gone before" box to help me out. Just the same, I'm going to recommend you give it a look. David Mack's storytelling is exciting, inventive, and stylish. I'm going to guess *Kabuki* reads better in a collected format, but it's easy to see why it was nominated for so many awards.

☞ I'm surprised to say this, but — Marvel did it first and they did it better than DC. Some months back, Norman Osborn, the original Green Goblin, came back from the dead, bought controlling interest in J. Jonah Jameson's *Daily Bugle*, and proceeded to make Peter Parker's life a living heck. It's true Marvel messed up the story in its final chapters, but that doesn't change my opinion that, prior to said unsatisfactory ending, the Spider-writers got a lot more drama, excitement, and suspense out of this plot development than DC did with its ***Superman: Save the Planet*** #1 ($2.95) by writer Louise Simonson, penciller Scot Eaton, and inkers Denis Rodier and Jimmy Palmiotti.

In *Save the Planet*, Lex Luthor buys and closes down the *Daily Planet* while Clark Kent is out saving the world from a summer's worth of "here come the meteors" movies. For three bucks, more if you bought the enhanced cover edition, you get to see the comic-book equivalent of stock footage of Superman smashing giant rocks and the rest of the cast wondering about their futures in the wake of Luthor's purchase. It's an extremely unsatisfying issue. The storyline would have been far more effective if it had been played out over the regular Superman titles. Instead, the readers get to pay extra to be depressed big-time. No, thanks.

Hopster's Tracks

On another note: It's taken a while to sink in, but I'm concerned about the message being sent to DC's younger readers in the "Lucy Lane is pregnant" sub-plot. Yes, it's realistic to show that even intelligent people are sometimes dumb enough to engage in unprotected sex — though Lord knows what the bigots will make out of the father of Lucy's unborn child being black. Yes, I'm pleased that Ron Troupe — the father — recognizes both Lucy's right of choice and the sanctity of life. But, considering the all-ages popularity of the Superman character, I think DC has the obligation to stress the dangers — *all* of the dangers, emotional, moral, and physical — of unprotected sex to a far greater degree than it has done so far in this ongoing subplot.

☞ One more review for the road. ***Writers' Bloc Annual '98*** ($3.50) is the second comic book published by a group of hopeful writers who "banded together via the Internet to help each other break into the comics biz." They started out by pooling their knowledge of the industry and reviewing each other's scripts, then decided to produce their own comic book with the help of several hopeful artists. In other words: Somebody's uncle had a barn, somebody else's uncle had some lights, so they decided to put on a show. This is the kind of go-for-it attitude you need to be a success in *any* field, and I applaud these creators for taking this important step in their development.

Will the comics buyer find outstanding work in this comic book? No, not really. But he will find a group of dedicated creators who are learning by doing. It's an exciting process, even if the results don't measure up to professional standards. I was doing much the same thing 30 years ago, except I never had printing this good. It's neat to feel a sense of kinship across the decades.

Behind a spiffy cover by Kaare Andrews, *Writers' Bloc Annual '98* features mostly super-hero stories by Sean Medlock, Pat Quinn, Shaun Behrens, Andrews, Jack Nolan, Jareth Grealish, Ruben Cordero, and Erik Sirmenis. The quality of the strips ranges from fair to good, which I think is just fine, given the inexperience of the creators. It isn't a comic book for every reader, but, if you enjoy the thrill of watching new talent at work, you'll be well-pleased with it. Your call.

I'll be back next issue.

You can send comments on and review items for this column to: Tony's Tips, P.O. Box 1502, Medina, OH 44258.

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95 VG, 97 VG each $100. Both $179

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ALL TOP
(1948) 9 VG-/VG Phantom Lady! $165

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(1939 Centaur) 8 VG Everett; transvestite S.H.! $245
11 FN (Everett) $329
18 FN-/FN $185

BATMAN
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18 VG/F Hitler, Tojo, Mussolini Cov. $500
19 VG+ $350
20 VG+ (Dust shadow) Batmobile cov $375
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9 VG/F $105
10 FN+ (bondage cov.) $155

BOY COMMANDOS
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CAPT. MIDNIGHT
(1942) 1 VG origin Secret Squadron $470
2 G+ + ... $135
Both Capt. Midnights. Only ..... $525!

CAPT. AMERICA
18 VG Great cov! $495
19 VG/F $495
38 F/VF (light SS on "A") $625
49 Abt FN (B.C. wear) $300
54 VG/F (lite SS on logo, Sm. pc tape B.C.) $265
62 FN- $350
65 FN/FN+ $425

DAREDEVIL
(1941) 3 VG+ (Some TOS). Save @ $25 ..... $319
6 VG. Nice deal $169
13 VG-/VG 1st Wise Guys $190
51, 53, 54, 55, 56, 100, VG-VG/F @ $25. All 6 ..... $125

DETECTIVE
78 VF appear (trimmed, Removed from Bd. Vol.) S&K Nice for $139
100 G+ (sp. chews), 101 VG/VG+ @ $129
117 FN- Just $159
181 VG-/VG (Nice pgs). Only $69
201 G/VG. Save $55

FLASH
(1940) 9 Abt G. Save $25 ..... $225
17 Fa/G. Ok for $119
29 G- Only $89

4MOST
(1941) 1 VG 3 GA origins $189
3 FN Classic Cov $109
4/4 VG only $5 with purch of 4most 1 or 3, o.wise $15

GOLDEN ARROW
(1942) 1 VG- (Some TOS). A steal $89

JUNGLE
2 F/VF+ appear. Minor flaking. Scarce. Only $195

KAANGA
2 FN $69
3 FN $49
Both Kaangas. Only $100

MALTESE FALCON
(Feat. BR 48) FN (1" tear B.C.). Scarce $175

MARVEL FAMILY
2 FN (pencil name top cov.) $175
3 FN-/FN $119
4 VG/F (Sm. ink name) $89

MARVEL MYSTERY
5 No Cov, No CF. Beat G is $1365. Rare $295

MODERN
54 VG+ + 2nd Torchy $65

MIGHTY MIDGETS
Golden Arrow II VG $25
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Spy Smasher 11 VG+ (W. Stamp) $35
All 5 Mighty Midgets, A $140+ Value. Only $115

OUR FLAG
2 VG/F $225

OUR GANG
15 VG. Save Big $29

PEP
(1940) 4 VG/VG+ $215
6 7, 8 VG each $160 All 3 ..... $439
9 VG/VG+ $169

PLANET
14 G/VG Save ~ $20 ..... $165
29 FN- $229
31 FN+ $250
32 Double Cov. (VG+, VG/F) $275
36 FN but pencil line in logo. Call it VG+ $145
38 FN- 1st Mysta Cov. $169
41, 44, 45, FN+ each $235. All 3 ..... $649
49, 50 VG-/F each $130. Both $229
58 FN+ + White Mtn Copy, brilliant color $300
59 VG/F $125
72 F/VF $150

SHEENA
4 F/VF. Save $20 ..... $149
5 FN. Save $20 ..... $99
7, 8 VG+, 11 FN each $80. All 3 ..... $215

SLAM BANG
(1940) 2 FN/FN+. Seldom offered $225

SMASH
4 VG+ (Some TOS) $95
6 VG+ Go Bozo! $85
Smash 4 & 6 Nice deal. Both $159

SPY SMASHER
11 FN/FN+ last issue. Scarce $225

STAR SPANGLED
2 VG 3 Star Spangled Kid stories! Save $25 ..... $250
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18 F/VF but 1/2" Sq. out cov. at sp., Origin S.S.Kid, S&K $189
24 F/VF S&K. Save $30 ..... $359
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STAR RANGER
April 1937 VG/F. Hard to find $125

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84 VG. Save $75
96 VG (MXYZTPLK). Only $65
108 G/VG (Nice Pages), 115 VG- each $39. Both $69
3D ADVS. (1953) VG+ Origin $225

SUPERWORLD
(1940) 3 G/VG. Scarce $295

UNCLE SAM
(1941) 1 G/VG. Now $369
8 FN- (1/4" tear at staple). Save $145

WHIZ
(1940) 6 VG/VG+. Save $25 ..... $269
10 VG. Nice buy $259
16 VG/F (TOS) Cap VS Spy Smasher. Only $195
45 FN+ $89
61 F/VF $79
67,70 FN+ each $70. Both $129
68 FN $59
74 VF- $99
76 VG/F, 92 FN- each $49. Both $89

WINGS
(1940) 19 VG-. Steal it $39
36 VG+ $45
68 FN, 77, 81 FN+ each $49. All Three only $119

ZEGRA
(1946) 2 VG+ (1st one) $109
4 VG+ $85
Both Zegras only $179

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21 NM. Steal it $17

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212, 214, G+-G/VG Guide ~ $120. Reduced $79

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JUNGLE 2
F/VF appear but minor flaking Scarce $195

MARVEL MYSTERY
5 No Cov, No CF, Worn. Rare $295

MIGHTY MOUSE
13 VG+, Fun Club 5 VG+ (1958 Giant). Cheap $29

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(1960's) 12 Misc. Only $49

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(1st Page out) $9

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(1944) 1 VG- (Single binder hole) L.B. Cole. Just $14

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(1941) 10 VG S.H., Tarzan, great strips. Save $40 ..... $49

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(1944) 2/6 FN-. Save over $30. ..... $49

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SUN, NOV 8

Born on this date:
Roger McKenzie
Marilee Woch (1964)

MON, NOV 9

The Turning Page exhibit begins at the School of Visual Arts in New York City. See Calendar Notes.

Born on this date:
Bill Mantlo
Phil Normand (1945)
Ken Landgraf (1950)
Mort Todd (1961)
Jack Herman (1961)
Patrick Hayes (1967)

TUES, NOV 10

CBG **#1306** ships — special Legion of Super-Heroes issue.

Born on this date:
Bruce Chrislip (1954)
Neil Gaiman (1960)

WED, NOV 11

Veterans Day

Born on this date:
Roger Slifer
Dave Cockrum (1943) **55** years ago
Jim Stenstrum (1950)
Susan F. Daigle-Leach (1960)
James A. Owen (1969)

THURS, NOV 12

Born on this date:
Carl Potts (1952)
Kelley Jarvis (1966)

FRI, NOV 13

Big Apple Comic Book & Toy Convention begins in New York City. See Calendar Notes.

Born on this date:
Doug Murray (1947)
Larry Doyle (1958) **40** years ago
Randy Clark (1963) **35** years ago

SAT, NOV 14

Born on this date:
Alberto Giolitti (1923) **75** years ago
Edd Vick (1958) **40** years ago

Publishers

To see your comics listed here, please supply the exact shipping date for each title *as soon as possible*, preferably at least one month ahead of time. Send the information to: Maggie Thompson, CBG Calendar, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990. The same goes for any other announcements, additions, and corrections.

CBG Calendar Notes

Shows listed are multiple-day, non-mall-show events with the primary focus on comic books. Further information about these and other shows, as well as creator appearances, can be found each week in the *CBG* features *What, Where, and When* and *Now Appearing*.

Big Apple Comic Book & Toy Convention, Nov. 13 and 14 at St. Paul Church, 9th Ave. and 60th St., New York, NY. Admission: $6/day. Hours: Friday noon-8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Info: (718) 326-2713.

The Turning Page, Nov. 9-13 at the Art Directors Club, 250 Park Ave. South, New York, NY. A collection of illustration and fine art work created by students from the MFA Illustration as Visual Essay Department. 18 visual art essays in book form will be exhibited, including Hema Agnihotri's exploration of the rituals and traditions surrounding her wedding in India, Gregory Sand's graphic novel about a plane crash, and Lisa DiPietro's look at plastic surgery.

Continuing This Week

• **American Dream Gallery**, 72 Walcot St., Bath, United Kingdom. Info: David Currie at 01225 424881. **Current exhibit: 60 Years of Superman** exhibit, through Nov. 30. A retrospective of the career of the world's first super-hero. Includes personal folio art by industry professionals exhibited for the first time.

• **Cartoon Art Museum**, 814 Mission St., San Francisco, CA. Call for updates on current exhibits: (415) CAR-TOON.

• **The Genius of Winsor McCay**, through Dec. 30 at the Ohio State University Cartoon Research Library Reading Room Gallery, 27 West 17th Ave. Mall, Columbus, OH.

• **Humor in a Jugular Vein, An Expanded Exhibition of the Art, Artists, and Artifacts of *Mad* Magazine**, through Nov. 21 at the Columbus College of Art and Design's Joseph V. Canzani Center, 60 Cleveland Ave., Columbus, OH. Items on display are from the collection of Mark J. Cohen and Rose Marie McDaniel.

• **International Museum of Cartoon Art**, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton, FL 33432. Call for updates on current exhibits: (561) 391-2200.

• **Words & Pictures Museum**, 140 Main St., Northampton, MA. Call for updates on current exhibits: (413) 586-8545. **Current exhibits: Creepy & Eerie with Richard Corben** exhibit, through January 1999 at the Words & Pictures Museum, in Northampton, Mass. Curated in collaboration with *Heavy Metal* magazine, this exhibit features a wide variety of Corben's work, including paintings which mix oils, acrylics, airbrush, and markers. The exhibit is not intended for children. **Marvel Knights** exhibit of super-hero art by Marvel and Event artists, including Joe Jusko, Jae Lee, Jimmy Palmiotti, Joe Quesada, Mark Texeira, and Bernie Wrightson, through January 1999. The exhibit will showcase work from each of the four Marvel Knights titles: *Black Panther, Daredevil, Inhumans,* and *Punisher,* including covers, interior work, and scripts, as well as such Event comics as *Ash* and *Painkiller Jane*. **Spotlight on Gary Gianni and Robert E. Howard's Solomon Kane**, through Dec. 14. The exhibit features Gianni's illustrations for Wandering Star's hardcover edition of Howard's *The Savage Tales of Solomon Kane*. Gianni will be at the museum Saturday, Nov. 21, for a signing.

New comics scheduled to ship this week

The following information is taken from publisher and distributor solicitations and updates and is as accurate as possible at press time. Check with your local retailer to find out what day new comics go on the shelves. Comics that are delayed or rescheduled will be tracked in future *CBG Calendars*.

Note: ✪ indicates a rescheduled comic book that appeared in a previous *CBG Calendar*.

Amaze Ink/Slave Labor
✪ *Dragon Knights* #2, $1.75 (Aug)

Archie Comics Publications
Archie #479, $1.75
Archie's Christmas Stocking #6, $2.25
Betty #69, $1.75
Betty & Veronica Double Digest #77, $2.95
Betty & Veronica Spectacular #33, $1.75
Jughead's Double Digest #56, $1.95
Knuckles #20, $1.75
Laugh Digest #146, $1.95
Sabrina the Teenage Witch #21, $1.75
Veronica #83, $1.75

Chaos! Comics
Chastity Rocked #2 (of 4), $2.95
Cremator: Hell's Guardian #1 (of 5), $2.95

Dark Horse Comics
Dark Horse Presents #137, $2.95
Masakazu Katsura's Shadow Lady I: Dangerous Love #2 (of 7), $2.50
Mask: Toys in the Attic #4 (of 4), $2.95
Predator vs. Judge Dredd TPB, $8.95
Star Wars: Crimson Empire II #1 (of 6), $2.95
✪ *Star Wars: A New Hope Manga* #4 (of 4), $9.95 (Oct. 11-17)

DC Comics
Animaniacs #44, $1.99
Azrael: Agent of the Bat #48, $2.25
Batman #561, $1.99
Batman: Toyman #3 (of 4), $2.25
Books of Magic #56, $2.50
DCU Holiday Bash III, $4.95
Green Lantern #108, $1.99
Impulse #44, $2.25
Legends of the DC Universe #12, $1.99
Legionnaires #67, $2.50
Minx #4, $2.50
Nightwing #27, $1.99
Resurrection Man #20, $2.50
Scooby-Doo #18, $1.99
Superman Adventures #27, $1.99
Superman & Batman: Generations #1 (of 4), $4.95
Superman: Man of Steel #85, $1.99
Transmetropolitan #17, $2.50
You Are Here, $19.95

Gemstone Publishing
Crime SuspenStories #25, $2.50
Panic Annual #2, $10.95
Tales from the Crypt Annual #5, $13.95
Valor #4, $2.50
Vault of Horror #26, $2.50

Image Comics
DV8 #24, $2.50
Gen ^{13} #35, $2.50
Hellcop #2, $2.50
Jim Lee's C•23 #8, $2.50
Wildcore #9, $2.50

Kitchen Sink Press
Muzzlers, Guzzlers and Good Yeggs, $12.95

Marvel Comics
Alpha Flight #18, $1.99
Amazing Spider-Man #1, $2.99
Avengers Forever #2 (of 12), $2.99
Black Panther #3, $2.50
Generation X #47, $1.99
Iron Man #12, $1.99
Iron Man/Captain America 98, $3.50
Mutant X #4, $1.99
Return of the Heroes, $14.95
Spider-Girl #4, $1.99
Spider-Man: The Manga #24, $2.99
X-Force #85, $1.99

Viz Communications
Dragonball #9 (of 12), $2.95
Inu-Yasha: A Feudal Fairy Tale Part Two #5 (of 9), $3.25
Pulp Vol. 2 #12, $5.95

New comics scheduled to ship in October

These are comics scheduled to ship during the month of November that, to the best of our knowledge, have not yet had specific release dates announced. Be aware that comics can take two or three days to reach retailers once they are shipped, so comics that are shipped at the end of the month may not appear in your local store until early the following month.

, A List
Book of Jumbo Comics Covers, $9.95
Daimoch #2, $2.95
Jungle Comics #6, $2.95

Aardvark-Vanaheim
Cerebus #236, $2.25

ABC Studios
China & Jazz Special Ed., $3 (two nude eds., $8)

Abstract Studios
Strangers in Paradise Vol. III #19, $2.75

AC Comics
Big 'Uns: Giant Women on the Rampage #1, $9.95
Roy Rogers Western #1, $4.95

Acclaim
N.I.O. #1 (of 4), $2.50

ACG
Cop Called Tracy #2, $2.95
Doomsday +1 #4, $2.95
Mike Mauser Files #1, $2.95
New Adventures of Brenda Starr #1, $2.95
Real Weird Combat #1, $2.95
Rock & Roll Romance #1, $2.95
Time Travellin' Herbie #1, $2.95
Zane Grey's Last Man, $2.95

Alamat Group of Comics
Angel Ace #3, $2.95
Indigo Valley #2, $2.95

Alternative Comics
Slowpoke #1, $2.95

Amaze Ink/Slave Labor
Love in Tights #1, $2.95
Mister Blank #8, $2.95
Patty Cake & Friends #11, $2.95
Ship of Fools, $11.95
Smith Brown Jones: Alien Accountant #3, $2.95
Something at the Window Is Scratching, $9.95
X-Ray Comics #4, $2.95

American Mule Entertainment
True Adventures of Adam & Bryon #5, $2.50

Antarctic Press
Areala: Angel of War #2 (of 4), $2.95
Far West #1, $2.95
Gold Digger #46, $2.95
Gold Digger/Ninja High School: Astrial vs. Cheetah Compilation, $4.95
Gold Digger/Ninja High School: Science Fair Compilation, $4.95
Luftwaffe 1946: World War II Special Vol. 2, $3.95
Robotech #11, $2.95
Stargods #3, $2.95 (spec. ed., $5.95)
Warrior Nun Black & White #15, $2.95
Warrior Nun: Resurrection #1, $2.95 (spec. ed., $5.95)

Arrow Comics Group
Korvus Vol. 2 #1, $2.95
War of the Worlds: The Memphis Front #4 (of 5), $2.95

Avatar Press
Cuda #2 (of 4), $3.50 (spec. eds., $3.95 and $6)
Dreamwalker #0, $3
Lookers: Slaves of Anubis #1, $3.50 (nude ed., $6)
Threshold #10 (three covers), $4.95 (nude ed., $6)

Awakening Comics
Awakening Comics #4, $2.95

Awesome/Hyperwerks
Deity II: Catseye #1, $2.95
Deity Vol. 2 #3, $2.95
Fighting American: Dogs of War #3, $2.50
Youngblood #3, $2.50

Basement Comics
Cavewoman Missing Link, $9.95

Bench Press Studios
Warrior's Way #5, $2.99

Black Eye Books
Hicksville, $19.95

Black Swan Press
Bloodthirsty Pirate Tales #7, $2.95

Blackout Comics
Hari Kari Manga: Running from Poison #1, $2.95

Blatant Comics
Sloth Park Sumoball #1 (two covers), $2.95

Blind Wolf Comics
Mr. Beat/Craybaby/Weirdsville Post-Halloween, Left-Over Monster Thanksgiving Special, $2.95

Boneyard Press
To Kill a Smile, $10.95
Young Dracula: Prayer of the Vampire #4 (of 5), $2.95

Bongo Comics
Hopster's Tracks #2, $2.95

Brainstorm Comics
Vamperotica #46, $3 (nude ed., $4)
Vamperotica Magazine #3, $4.95 (two nude eds., $5.95)

Broken Halos
Art of Tim Vigil: Dark Utopia #4, $3.95

Caliber
Disciples #1, $2.95
Fatalis #2, $2.95
Golgothika: Low Place like Home #1, $2.95
Khan!, $5.95
King Zombie #3, $2.95
Ko-Ko the Klown, $3.95
Lifequest #5, $2.95
Pakkins' Land: Forgotten Dreams #5, $2.95
Seeker #5, $2.95
Sherlock Holmes Reader #3, $3.95
Troy: The Troy War, $12.95

Cartoon Books
Bone #35, $2.95

Chibi-Pop Manga
Chibi-Pop Manga #3, $3.95

Class Enterprises
Cube #5, $2.95

Claypool Comics
Elvira #67, $2.50
Soulsearchers #33, $2.50

Club 408 Graphics
Timespell: Director's Cut #1, $2.95

Collage
Get Real Comics #2, $1.95

Compass Comics
Monster Island #1, $3.95

Coppervale Press
Original Starchild Book 2 (of 4), $4.95
Corsair Publishing
Dork Tower #2, $2.95
CPM Manga
Legend of Lemnear #11, $2.95
Lodoss War: Grey Witch #1, $2.95
Midnight Panther: Feudal Fantasy #3, $2.95
Slayers #2, $2.95
Dancing Elephant Press
Kane #24, $2.95
Deep Sea Comics
Ray Mond #2, $2.95
Delta Comics Publishing
Inmates: Prisoners of Society #4 (of 4), $2.95
Drawn & Quarterly
Extended Dream of Mr. D. #2 (of 3), $3.50
Humphry Osmond: Psychedelic Pioneer, $3.50
Dream Smith Studios
Dreamsmith Studios' Book #6, $4
Tranquility #3, $2.50
Dreamer Comics
Sojourn #7, $3.15
Dreamriders Workshop
Flat Black #2, $2.95
Duality Press
Vigil: Desertion, $2.95
Eagle Wing Press
Apollo Smile #3, $2.95
Madoka #2 (of 4), $2.95
Eddie Campbell Comics
Dance of Lifey Death New Ed., $4.95
Egmont Fleetway
Judge Dredd Megazine #48, $6.95
2000 A.D. #1118-1121, $2.95
El Capitan Books
Collected Stray Bullets Vol. 2, $11.95
Stray Bullets #17, $2.95
Event Comics
Painkiller Jane #0, $3.95
Evil Propaganda
Anti-Social #3, $2.95
Excel Graphics
Starchy: Dark Spud One-Shot, $1.95
Fantagraphics Books
Complete Crumb Vol. 13, $18.95 (hardcover, $39.95)
Eightball Caricature: Nine Stories HC, $29.95
Measles #1, $2.95
Prince Valiant Vol. 35: Doppleganger, $16.95
Spicecapades, $4.95
Top Notch, $4.50
Fifth Panel Comics
Pieces #3, $2.50
Fireman Press
Gear #1 (of 6), $2.95
Flypaper Press
Invisible 9 #3 (of 3), $2.95
Frank Frazetta Fantasy Illus.
Frank Frazetta Fantasy Illustrated #4, $5.99
Free Lunch Comics
Bigger: Will Rison & the Devil's Concubine #1 (of 4), $2.95
Full Bleed Studios
Pitt Crew #2, $2.50
Games Workshop Publishing
Inferno Magazine #9, $6.95
Warhammer Monthly #9, $2.95
Glacial Pace Press
Paper & Binding #2, $2.95
Green Door Studios
Cuckoo #7, $2.75
Grey Blossom Sequentials
Paper Cinema: Return of Sancho the Bandit King #1 (of 3), $3.55
Hamlyn
Judge Dredd: Blind Justice, $19.99
Sinister Dexter: Gun Lovin' Criminal, $20.99
Slaine the Horned God HC, $37.99
Harmon Comics
Maiden Hell #0, $2.95
Harris Comics
Vampirella: Hell on Earth #3 (of 3) (two covers), $2.95
Harvey Comics Entertainment
Harvey: The Magazine for Kids #1, $2.95
Heavy Metal Magazine
Keepers of the Maser Vol. 2: Isle of the Dwarves, $16.95
Helikon Comics
Galaxion #8, $2.75
Galaxion Vol. 1, $15.95
Hijinx Comics
Captain Crafty #2 1/2, $1
I Box Publishing
Thieves & Kings #25, $2.50
Thieves & Kings Vol. 3: The Blue Book, $16.50
Image Comics
Age of Bronze #1, $2.95
Automaton #3 (of 3), $2.95
Bulletproof Monk #1, $2.95
Carvers #2 (of 3), $2.95
Curse of the Spawn #27, $1.95
Daring Escapes #3, $2.50
Darkminds #5, $2.95
Darkness #20, $2.50
Darkness Deluxe Collected Ed., $14.95
Desperate Times #3, $2.95
A Distant Soil #27, $2.95
Espers #9, $2.95
Espers: Interface, $15.95
Fathom #4, $2.50
Gazillion #1, $2.50
Kabuki: Masks of Noh HC, $19.95
Kabuki Reflections #2, $4.95
Kid Terrific #1, $2.95
Kiss: Psycho Circus #15, $2.25
Lady Pendragon #1, $2.50
Mage: The Hero Discovered Collected Ed. Book 3, $5.95; *Book 4*, $4.95
Sabre 20th Anniversary, $12.95
Savage Dragon #55, $2.50
Savage Dragon Archives #3 (of 4), $2.95
Savage Dragon's Greatest Team-Ups, $19.95
Siren #3 (of 3), $2.95
Spartan X #3, $2.95
Spawn #80, $1.95
Spawn Vol. VII, $9.95
Tales of the Darkness #4, $2.95
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles #19, $2.95
Witchblade #28, $2.50
Zorro: The Lady Wears Red, $12.95
Ironcat
Cutie Honey '90 Vol. 2 #6 (of 6), $2.95
Dragon Wars #8, $2.95
Futaba-Kun Change #5, $2.95
Hyper Dolls #4, $2.95
New Vampire Miyu Vol. 3 #2, $2.95
Virtual Bang #4 (of 6), $2.95
JNCO Comics
Burner #1, $1.99
Flamehead #4, $1.99
Goop #2, $1.99
Kaso Comics
Indestructible Man #2 (of 2), $2.95
Kaso Presents Annual #1, $3.50
Kenzer & Company
Knights of the Dinner Table #25, $2.95
King Led Comics
King Led Comics Presents Captain SpyD.E.R. #3, $1.95
Lethargic Comics International
Lethargic Lad #7, $2.95
Liar Comics
More than Mortal: Sagas #3, $2.95
London Night Studios
Crow/Razor: Kill the Pain Finale, $3 (spec. ed., $5)
Crow/Razor: Nocturnal Masque, $5.95
Razor: Gothic #3 (of 3), $3 (spec. ed., $5)
Sheena Queen of the Jungle #3 (of 4), $3 (spec. ed., $10)
Lone Star Press
Pantheon #4 (of 12), $2.95
Luxurious Comics
Tranquilizer #2, $2.95
Midnight Comics
Children of the Dead #1 (of 3), $2.95
Mighty Gremlin
Electric Girl #1, $3.50
Mixx Publications
Ice Blade Pocket Manga #1, $11.95
Mixxzine Vol. 2 #2/3 Dec 98/Jan 99, $4.99
Sailor Moon #2, $2.95
Sailor Moon Pocket Manga #2, $11.95
Mojo Press
Red Range: A Weird Western, $10.95
NBM
One Big Happy: None of This Fun Is My Fault!, $9.95
New England Comics
Tick's Big Yule Log Special '99, $3.50
Ngng Studios
Rana 7 #5, $2.95
Pan Entertainment
Knewts of the Round Table #3, $2.50
Paper Life Studio
Julie's Journey/Gravity #5, $2.50
Peregrine Arts & Entertainment
Books of Lore: The Kaynin Gambit #1 (of 4) (two covers), $2.95
Forty Winks Christmas Special, $2.95
Plastic Spoon Press
Exit 6 #2, $2.95
Quantum Comics
All Thrill Comics #1, $2.95
Dark Peril #1, $2.95
Threesome #1, $2.95
Union of Justice #1, $2.95
Radio Comix
Furrlough #71, $2.95
Morning Glory #2, $2.95
Trouble Express #1, $2.95
Realm Press
Battlestar Galactica Special Ed.: No Memory of Earth #1, $2.99
Red Phoenix Comics
Ameri-Manga One-Shot Series: Greg's Curse #2, $2.95
Roger Mason
Body Swap #1, $2.95
Silverline
Silverstorm #2 (of 4), $2.95
Sirius Entertainment
Akiko #30, $2.50
Broken Heroes #9, $2.50
Crypt of Dawn #5, $2.95
David Quinn's Thirteen Days of Christmas #1, $2.95
Empty Zone #4, $2.50
Poe #13, $2.50
Poison Elves #41, $2.50
Poison Elves Vol. 5, $14.95
Scary Godmother Holiday Spooktactular, $2.95
Slab-o-Concrete
Girlfrenzy Millennial, $12
Missive Device: Bad Hair Day, $2.25
Missive Device: Donna's Day, $2.25
Missive Device: Simon Cat in Taxi, $2.25
Solson Entertainment
Flash: Art of Drawing Tattoos, $19.95
How to Draw Comics #2, $4.95
How to Draw Sexy Women #4, $4.95
Sweetfish Records
Riggley Road Stories, $3
Thorby Enterprises
Johnny Cosmic #1, $2.95
Night City, $2.95
Study in Scarlet, $6.95
Three Finger Prints Publishing
Three Geeks, $8.95
Top Shelf Productions
Top Shelf on Parade, $6.95
Troma Comics
Sucker: The Vampire #1, $2.50
Underhanded Comics
Captain Dingleberry #4, $2.95
Vision Comics
Extinctioners #2, $2.95
Tall Tails #5, $2.95
Warp Graphics
Elfquest #30, $4.95
Elfquest: The Rebels, $11.95
Wyldcard Studio
Wyld Breed #2, $1.95

ADULT COMICS
ABC Studios
Double Impact: Art Attack #2, $3 (three nude eds., $8)
Double Impact: Raw #2, $3 (nude eds., $8 and $10)
Double Impact Suicide Run #2 (of 2), $3 (two nude eds., $8)
BMV Studios
Vesil #2, $2.95 (nude ed., $6)
Brainstorm Comics
Exotic Storm: April Hunter #1, $4.95 (nude ed., $5.95)
CPM Manga
Demon Beast Invasion: The Fallen #3, $2.95
La Blue Girl Collection Vol. 2, $16.95
Urotsukidoji: Legend of the Overfiend #5, $2.95
Death Comics
Betty in Leather, $3.50
Fantagraphics Books
Bitch in Heat Vol. 1, $18.95
Dr. Dare Vol. 1: Spear of Destiny, $16.95
Here Come the Lovejoys #6, $2.95
Original Bondage Fairies #1, $2.95
Secret Plot Deep #6, $3.50
Silky Whip #8, $3.50
Voice of Submission #6, $2.95
Weird Sex, $2.95
Hustler Comix
Hustler Comics Presents XXX Vol. 1 #1, $5.99
Ironcat
Femme Kabuki #1, $2.95
Ogenki Clinic Vol. 3 #3, $2.95
Jack Hammer Productions
Maximum Manga X Magazine #1, $3.95 (nude ed., $5.95)
Last Gasp
Bonnie and Claudia, $14.95
Zap #14, $3.95
London Night Studios
Full Metal Feature Weekly #1-4, $3 (nude ed., $5)
NBM
Spanish Fly Vol. 5: Soul Mates, $10.95
Radio Comix
Genus Spotlight: Skunkwork Girls #2, $2.95
Milk! #8, $2.95
Revisionary Press
Carnal Comics: The Christi Lake Collection, $6.95 (spec. ed., $14.95)
Carnal Comics: The Rebecca Lord Collection, $4.95 (spec. ed., $12.95)
Sexploitation Cinema: A Cartoon History #1 (of 2), $3.50
Scarlet Rose Productions
Personals '98 #1, #2, $2.95
Solson Entertainment
How to Draw Fetish Art: The Ultimate in Sensuality, $19.95

Shipping notes and updates

• **Confirmed shipping:** We have received confirmation that the following titles have shipped and should be available in stores. This reflects shipping information received through Oct. 23.

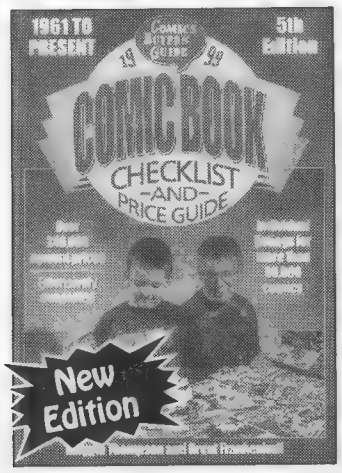
ACG: *Wally Wood War* #1, $2.75 (Aug)
Caliber: *Seeker* #3, $2.95 (Jun)
CPM: *Demon Beast Invasion: The Fallen* #1, $2.95 (Sep)
Midnight Panther: Feudal Fantasy #1, $2.95 (Sep)
Urotsukidoji: Legend of the Overfiend #3, $2.95 (Sep)
Day One: *Astounding Space Thrills* #2, $2.95 (Jul)
Fantagraphics: *Secret Plot Deep* #4, $2.95 (Sep)
Silky Whip #6, $3.50 (Sep)
Image: *Big Bang Comics* #22, $2.95 (Aug)
London Night: *Razor: Gothic* #2 (of 3), $3 (spec. ed., $6) (Sep)
Mu: *Cyberkitties* #2 (of 3), $2.95 (Sep)
Zu #19, $2.95 (Sep)
New England: *Tick's Big Back to School Special* #1, $3.50 (Sep)
Sirius: *Poe* #11, $2.50 (Sep)
Sheba #4, $2.50 (Sep)

• **Oct. 25-31:** The following items have been added to publishers' shipping schedules for this week, in addition to those items listed in previous *CBG Calendars*.

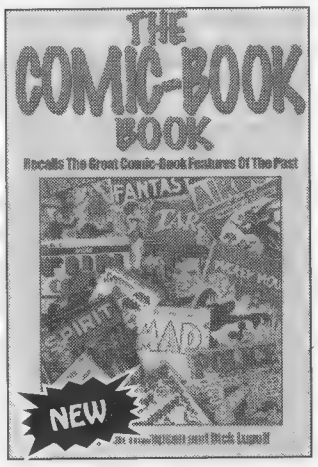
Acclaim: *Turok: Adon's Curse*, $4.95 (Oct)
Amaze Ink/Slave Labor: *Skeleton Key/Sugar Kat Special*, $2.95
Slacker Comics #18, $2.95
Smith Brown Jones Halloween Special #1, $2.95
Sugar Buzz #4, $2.95 (Sep)
Awesome: *Fighting American: Dogs of War* #1, $2.50 (Sep)
El Capitan: *Stray Bullets* #16, $2.95 (Aug)
Event: *Painkiller Jane/Darkchylde* #1, $2.95 (Sep)
Image: *Age of Heroes* #5, $2.95 (Sep)
Curse of Spawn #25, $1.95 (Sep)
Daring Escapes #2, $2.50 (Oct)
Darkness #18, $2.50 (Sep. 27-Oct. 3)
A Distant Soil #26, $2.95 (Sep. 27-Oct. 3)
Jackie Chan's Spartan X #5 (of 6), $2.95 (Jul)
Jinx: Essential Collection TPB, $17.95 (Oct)
Kabuki: Circle of Blood HC, $29.95 (Oct)
Savage Dragon #54, $2.50 (Oct)
Tenth Mini-Series TPB, $11.95 (Oct)
Ironcat: *Cutie Honey '90 Vol. 2* #5, $2.95 (Oct)
Dragon Wars #7, $2.95 (Oct)
Futaba-Kun Change #4, $2.95 (Oct)
Hyper Dolls #3, $2.95 (Oct)
New Vampire Miyu Vol. 3 #1, $2.95 (Oct)
Virtual Bang! #3 (of 6), $2.95 (Oct)
Topps: *Xena, Warrior Princess: Wrath of Hera* #2 (of 2) (two covers), $2.95 (Oct. 11-17)

Wolff & Byrd, Counselors of the Macabre — By Batton Lash

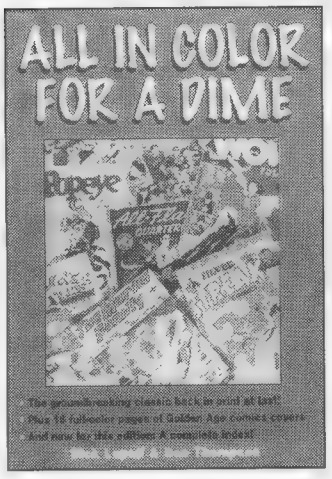
GREAT GIFTS. . .



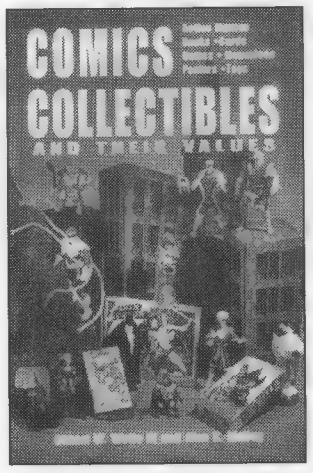
1999 Comic Book Checklist and Price Guide
5th Edition
by Maggie Thompson
Capture the leading edge of the comics industry with pricing from 1961 (Silver Age) to the present for independent releases and hard-to-find editions, plus all the regular releases. More than 80,000 comics are listed in up to three grades of condition. Spotlights on comics characters let you know the background of some of your favorite titles. Previous edition sold out in 6 months!
Softcover • 7 x 10 • 616 pages
300+ b&w photos
DO05 • $16.95



The Comic-Book Book
Edited by Don Thompson and Dick Lupoff
A group of comic-book collectors and creators relive the Golden Days as they recall their favorite childhood comics in this sequel to All in Color for a Dime. This reprint from the 1973 Arlington House original sports a new introduction from Comics Buyer's Guide Editor Maggie Thompson and a new index. The Comic-Book Book is an entertaining and evocative excursion into memory land and an important contribution to the study of pop culture.
Softcover • 6 x 9 • 368 pages
50 line drawings • 16-page color section
CBB • $14.95



All In Color For A Dime
by Dick Lupoff & Don Thompson, editors
A long-unavailable comics classic returns! Eleven comic book collectors, creators and writers recall their childhood comic heroes - more than 100 in all. The reprint from the 1970 Arlington House original sports an all-new introduction includes 16 pages of full-color comic book covers.
Softcover • 6 x 9 • 272 pages
50 b&w photos • 16-page color section
ACD01 • $14.95



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by Stuart W. Wells III and Alex G. Malloy
This is where the action is! Everything from action figures to art portfolios and comic cards to posters and toys. Zero in on the background and histories of collecting categories, get accurate prices for everything, and explore more than 600 detailed photos.
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Hake's Guide to Comic Character Collectibles
by Ted Hake
A cavalcade of comic-strip characters are assembled by author Ted Hake for this review. Lunch boxes, puzzles, and many other objects are pictured and priced from the last 100 years. More than 1,500 character collectibles in all!
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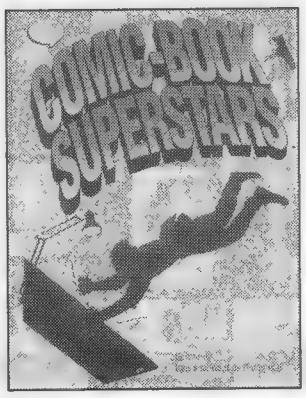

Comic-Book Superstars
by Maggie Thompson, Editor
Meet the writers, artists, colorists and letterers who bring the stories to life. Maggie Thompson compiled this book with wide page margins for autographs and sketches. It's perfect for comics conventions, signings and store appearances.
Softcover • 8-1/2 x 11
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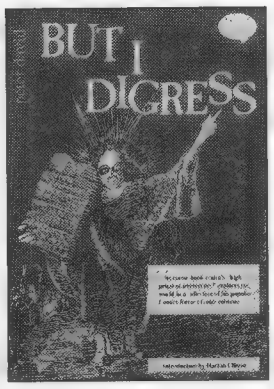

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Softcover • 7 x 10 • 176 pages
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Campbell's Soup Collectibles from A to Z: A Price and Identification Guide
by David and Micki Young
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by The Publishers of Toy Shop and Warman's Today's Collector
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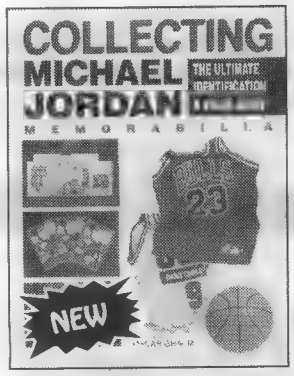

Collecting Michael Jordan
The Ultimate Identification & Value Guide
by Oscar Gracia
Current, accurate price listings, and hundreds of full-color photos throughout make this book a perfect gift for yourself or your favorite Jordan fan. Includes cards, posters, jerseys, shoes, tickets, balls and much more rare and commonly found collectibles. All prices are verified by the hobby's No. 1 source - Sports Collector's Digest.
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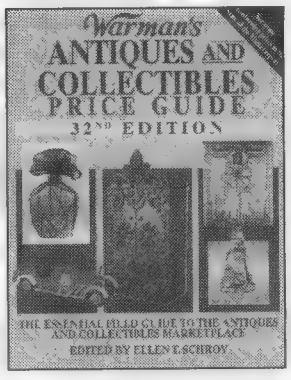

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by Edited by Ellen T. Schroy
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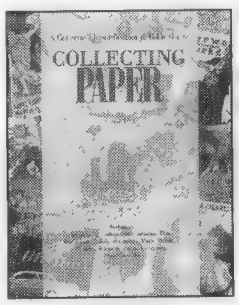

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by Gene Utz
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Softcover • 8-1/2 x 11 • 222 pages
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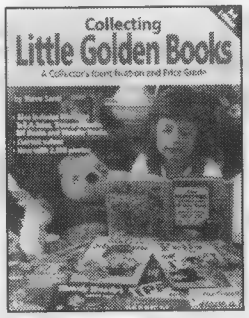

Collecting Little Golden Books, 3rd Edition
A Collector's Identification and Price Guide
by Steve Santi
In this updated, expanded edition you will find 2,600 photos, current prices, and information on how to identify editions and determine the value and condition of your books. This edition also features Whitman Tell-A-Tales, Treasure Books, Elf Books, and Wonder Books.
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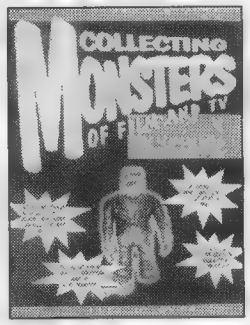

Collecting Monsters of Film and TV
Identification and Value Guide
by Dana Cain
Find out the going price for movie posters, figures, puzzles, games, comics and hundred of other monster-related items. This encyclopedic reference is your guide to a mansion-full of haunted collectibles. Plus you'll take a tour of the Ackermansion with the famous monster collecting master.
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This section features listings for retail comics stores around the world. Traveling comics collectors of all types search for new stores to dig through on their vacations, business trips, etc. Advertise your establishment here, including approximately ten words of miscellaneous description, for only $3.50 an issue. You can buy this space in increments of 26 or 52 issues, for $91.00 or $182.00 respectively. Send in your store name, address, phone number, and approximately ten words of description, along with your payment. If you stock Comics Buyer's Guide we'll put your listing in boldface type.

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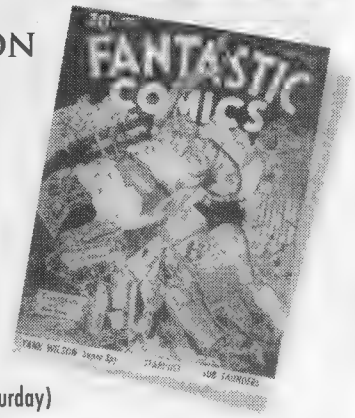

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PENCILLER INKER cover colorist needed for quarterly B/W hi-tech Cyberpunk comic. Experience preferred but not necessary. Competitve rates. Send samples to: Reverie Comics, PO Box 373, Voorhees, NJ 08043.

ISO ARTIST to collaborate with on projects. Please send samples or for more information: Temporal Press, 442 Adelle Drive, Sagamore Hills, OH 44067. http://temporal.cjb.net, temporal_press@juno.com

ARTIST WANTED for small press horror series. Send samples to: Vin Varvara, 1845 Hobart Avenue #3D, Bronx, New York 10461.

4015 DISTRIBUTORS

LOOK FOR Kaso Comics new titles in November. The Indestructible Man #2, Kaso Presents #1 available from Diamond or Kaso Comics, PO Box 381, Hicksville, NY 11802-0381.

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HOT ACTION! Sci-Fi Adventure Mini- Series! The Eden Descendants-for those who Read Comics. 128 pages! $5! Quester Entertainment, PO Box 1374, Lk. Stevens, WA 98258. www.premier1.net/~quester

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HOLEY CRULLERS #6 now available! Only $2 postpaid. Troy Hickman, 3200-A South 9th St., Lafayette, IN 47905. And pick up Turok: Adon's Curse, available now!

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4101 ARCHIE, WANTED

GREETINGS EARTHLINGS still searching for Ardies Madhouse 22 any condition. Send info. and price to: Defina, PO Box 172541, Hialeah, FL 33017-2541. Comments welcome.

4110 BLACK & WHITE, FOR SALE

SPECIAL OFFER! Holey Crullers #1-6 plus pin-up issue, only $12 postpaid! Troy Hickman, 3200-A South 9th St., Lafayette, IN 47905.

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4130 DC, FOR SALE

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4130 DC, FOR SALE

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NOVA 1 thru 25 N/MT $38, Tales Astonish 1979 Mint $11, Sgt. Fury Ann.1 $18, 100 Fine $3. Postage $3. 606-283-2356, Jack, 9 Lakeshore, Florence, KY 41042-9790.

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JLA 49, 52, 54, 61, VF+ $15 ea., 48 VF $23, 53 VF $14. Add $4. Barry Eller, 309 South Rowan Ave., Spencer, NC 28159.

BATMAN #46 G- $76, Ad. Comics 260 G $70, Doom Patrol #91 VG-FN $18, JLA #6 G $26, JLA #30 G $10, Strange Adv. #117 VG+ $90, Swamp Thing #2 NM $35. P&H $5. Larry 215-677-0268.

CHEAP DCs, Marvels, Independents from 80's, 90's. SASE: GE Guay, PO Box 142, Quincy, MA 02171-0003 or E-Mail to gguay@gis.net for list. Thanks to responders!

SANDMAN FANS!! The kindly ones hardback mint Pristine condition, still sealed in plastic, only $20. 1st class postage paid. Eric Troxell, PO Box 108, Ashville, PA 16613.

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DC WAR lists OPPW 100 thru 250, off 1 thru 100 SSWS 90 thru 150, VG to Fine. Carlos Sanchez, 2127 Genevieve, San Bernardino, CA 92405.

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CRISIS ON Infinite Earths 1-12 for $36! That's $64 less than the hardcover and I'll pay shipping! Michael Graham, 417 W. Shawnee St., Tahlequah, OK 74464-3629.

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DETECTIVE 241, 244, 253 GVG $25; 248 VG $37.50, 252 G+ $20; 258 G $16; 292 VG+, 366 VF- $19.50. Satisfaction guaranteed. Doug Albacete, 707-448-3101.

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JLA #1VGF $300, #2VG $95; Metamorpho #1F+ $25; World's Finest #96F+ $50, #97F $40, #98VG $22; Lois Lane #12F- $27, 28, 31, 36 VG+ $12. 804-796-3913.

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LOOKING FOR Superman #137 in good condition. Art Hullinger, Box 108 RR 6, Decatur, IL 62521-8826.

ROOTS OF The Swamp Thing #1-5. Write with condition, price. Frank Lloyd Jr., PO Box 270, Richwood, WV 26261. Roots of the Swamp Thing #1-5.

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ANDY GRIFFITH Show, Fractured Fairy Tales, Linus the Lionhearted. Karl Wilcox, 628 Morningside Dr., Chester, SC 29706. 803-385-6764.

TWILIGHT ZONE #1, 3, 15-92; Outer Limits 2, 10-18; Magnus Robot Fighter #30, 37, 42-46. VF or better. Star Wars #19-107. David Rauchwarter, 266 Juniper Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066. E-mail: drauchw@pressenter.com

HOWDY DOODY #17, 23, 28 and F.C. #761, 811, all in GVG. Tom Callahan, 328 Beach Ave., Staten Island, NY 10306. 212-637-6537. sphinx0614@aol.com

4150 DISNEY, FOR SALE

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COMICS AND Stories Issues 1-40 VG or Better. Dealer paying 50% overstreet. Inquire 716-882-2875. Donald Whyte, 46 Greenwood Place, Buffalo, NY 14213-1424.

4160 EC, FOR SALE

OVERSTREET PRICE Guide Number 9. EC Special Edition. S.C. Mint. 1979. $25 plus postage. Don Faruolo, 15 Fairmount Terr., West Orange, NJ 07052. 973-325-3169.

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CAPTAIN MARVEL Adventures #'s 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 25, 41, 55, 60, 61. Cochran, Box 242, Planetarium Station, New York, NY 10024-0242.

4180 FOREIGN, FOR SALE

B&W DIGESTS. Mostly adult. Mostly French prices cheap. Send SASE for lists. Wants welcomed. I. Oppenheimer, 3222 Smith Ave., Baltimore, MD 21208.

4181 FOREIGN, WANTED

EURO CRUMB items wanted. I would like to trade with European based Robert Crumb collectors. Eric Morey, PO Box 322, Woodacre, CA 94973-0322.

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FANTASTIC FOUR #217 all NM $1.95 each (4 copies). $1.50 postage. Write for free selling list. Joseph Pormigiano, 74-56 260th St., Glen Oaks, NY 11004-1123.

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http://members.tripod.com/~HAMRMAN52/index-13.html is my web page for Marvel 1970's Reprint Monster Comics. Hamersky, PO Box 1334, San Diego, CA 92112.

SAVAGE SHE-HULK 1-25, Sgt. Fury 20-167, Silver Surfer 1-34, Son/ Satan 1-8, New Mutants 1-86. G-NM. 30-50% off guide. SASEAR. Wally, Box 76, Waynesburg, OH 44688.

SOLO AVENGERS 1 thru 10 NM $5. West Coast Avengers 1 thru 10 and Annual 1 thru 4 NM/M $10. Mitch 281-444-6293.

1970'S STUFF: 125-piece high grade collection; Spectacular Spider-Man #1-#20; 15-piece X-Men lot. V. Toth, RR 1 Box 5975, Smithfield, ME 04978. 207-362-6449.

"JOURNEY INTO Mystery", origin of Thor Comic 1966, came with record, 25 pages VG to Fine, $40. Steve Berdy, 159 W. Sherman Ave., Newark, NY 14513. Phone: 315-331-6618.

GALACTUS BITES! Silver Surfer rules! SS(1st) #8,9,17: $15 ppd. Fantasy Masterpieces(2nd) 4,6,7,8,9, 12-14: $10 ppd. Write to: Craig Smith, PO Box 60362, Pasadena, CA 91116-6362.

FANTASTIC FOUR 200-217, 219-249, 251-298, all NM/M, $40 ppd. Jeff Dahlberg, 5130 N. 2nd, Loves Park, IL 61111.

NIGHT NURSE 1 FN $20. Li'l Kids 1 FN $8. Harvey 4 FN $5. Chili 7 FN $3. Shipping $4. Gary Johannigmeier 618-692-9302. garyjoh@iw.edwpub.com

HULK 181 FN+ $200, 182 VG $20, Where Monsters Dwell, Werewolf by Night, Manthing Iron Fist. Send 4 list. L.B. Smith, Box 664, Plover, WI 54467.

PHOENIX UNTOLD story $10 Elektra Saga #1-4 NM $12, Star Wars Jedi Limited 1-4NM $20, Kitty Pride Wolverine 1-6NM $12, $3 postage. Ernie 603-447-5701.

FANTASTIC FOUR #37 VF+ $45, #41 VF+ $30, #42 VF- $20, #44 F/VF $17, #50 VG+ $34, #51 FN+ $12, #54 FN/VF $14. Jim 408-867-9485.

UNCANNY X-MEN 98 $25, 105, 106, 114, 117 $15 each, all comic fine condition. Markgraf, 1863 N. Miller St., Santa Maria, CA 93454. 805-925-7193.

SAVAGE SWORD of Conan 62 mostly NM issues between #21 and #99. All for $200. 219-272-1310. Steve, 16830 Barrington Ct., Granger, IN 465350.

ALL NM Marvel Comics presents #117, 118, 123, 124, 130, 131, 134-137, 143-146 $1.75 ea. Marvel Fanfare, #1-6, 10-13 $2.25 ea. Call Mark: 715-824-3359, leave message.

STRANGE TALES #108 VG (piece missing B/C) $25 ppd. 508-690-1502, evenings.

MARVEL DELUXE figures, MIB, Doc-Ock, Iron-Man, Kraven, Lizard, Mandarin, Poseable Spider-Man, Vulture $10 each, all seven for $45. Michael O'Hara, PO Box 651, New York, NY 10028-0006.

FF 51Fr+, 52Fr, 53Fr, 54VG-, 55Gd+, 56Gd, 57Gd+, 60Gd, 61Gd+, 62Gd, 65VG-, 67Gd, 73Gd, 74Gd, 78Gd+, 79VG, 80VG, 82VG, 84VG, everything $30. Mark 503-516-4766.

ROGUE MINI-SERIES, Storm mini-series, Preacher: Gone to Texas TPB, $12 each postpaid. Tom Kelly, PO Box 97, Eastanollee, GA 30538.

BLACK PANTHER #1 NM $8, #2 $4, #4 $2, Champions #12, 13 NM $6 ea. What If #1 NM $20. John Caputo 718-457-9203.

4210 MARVEL/TIMELY, FOR SALE

DAREDEVIL: MAN without fear sealed mega pack! ALI 5 issues in mint condition! $9 ppd. David Toftum, 5601 69th Ave. Apt. 312, Brooklyn Park, MN 55429.

MARVEL TRADES sale! Spider-Man: Identity Crisis $15, Deadpool: Mission Improbable $10, X-Men: Crossroads $10. Silver Surfer GN $15 ppd. Bill 618-744-1543, asgard41@aol.com

CONAN 3 $120, 4 $50 7 thru 9 $30 each, 11 $42. All newstand mint. 414-744-4912. Greg Krolikowski, 406 W Bottsford Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53207.

TALES TO Astonish #48 Trimmed O/W VF+ $30 ppd. #53 F/VF $30 ppd. 508-690-1502, evenings.

HULK #340, 377 NM both for $25 ppd. 508-690-1502 evenings.

4211 MARVEL/TIMELY, WANTED

G.I. JOE comics wanted. #1 $3, #2 $5, #3-#10 $1 ea. #11-#26 50¢ ea. #27 up 25¢ ea. First prints. NM only. Tom Kalb 602-962-5751 Mon.-Sat. 11-7.

SPIDEY GIVEAWAYS really wanted! Since 1965, various companies sponsored Spider-Man comics to promote their products. Got any? Top prices paid. Dealers, collectors call Steve 310-458-1808.

MARVEL MASTERWORKS Vol. 13 Fantastic Four VF or better paying $80. James Cassara, PO Box 18553, Asheville, NC 28814. E-mail at: jjcassara@aol.com

SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #25 variant cover "wanted dead or alive" onslaught! X-Men variant cover, Spider-Man 65 variant cover. E-mail: bbjarm00@pop.uky.edu

WANTED: CHEAP issues and sets of Secret Wars 1-12. Also Youngblood by Moore. Rudy Junior, 72 Horn Lane, Levittown, NY 11756. rudyaub@erols.com

RECENT MARVEL Comics wanted at 50¢ each. Please send list to: Michael, 7619 Vasos Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628.

4216 PLATINUM AGE WANTED

PLATINUM AGE comics wanted, 1897-1932. Send list. All items in large catalogue available in trade. Calvin Slobodian, 74 Waterloo, Brandon, Manitoba, Canada R7B 3W7. 204-728-4337.

4220 SCIENCE FICTION/HORROR FOR SALE

HAMMER PAPERBACKS: Countess Dracula (slight wear) $8; Lust For Vampire $10; Dracula '72 pressbook heralds (box of 500) $100: Polwort, POB 5152, St. Louis, MO 63139.

REPTISAURUS THE Terrible 3, 4, 7 Fine $12 each, 5 VF $28, Space Adv. 23 Good $20, Uncanny Tales 9 Good $30. Fred 201-864-2252.

AREN'T THE prices being paid for horror books scary! Well so are some of the prices being paid for NM Silver Age! Call Bob Storms 212-213-5590.

EDGAR RICE Burroughs first editions, comics, fanzines, videos, other collectibles. Send long SASE for list. James Van Hise, 57754 Onaga Trail, Yucca Valley, CA 92284.

VAULT OF Horror: (EC) All FN. #27 $47, #26 $63, #24 $63, others. Money order. Information, write (no calls). R. Bowden, 1907 Texas, Rantoul, KS 66079-9037.

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COMIX BOOK 1 and 2. 70's Marvel magazine. Both for only $10 ppd. Only one copy of each! Rob Abrams, 251 Foxhill, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089.

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BUYING RARE Underground with Corben, Crumb Bode. E-mail: aschei96@pipeline.com. Arnold Scheiman, 30 East 9th St., New York, NY 10003.

4250 INDEPENDENTS, FOR SALE

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$20 PREMIUMS: Dawn Compilation Preview, EO Ltd. Premier, Gunfighters in Hell #1 Ltd., Razor Annual #1, Fritzswisyle, Verotica #1 First Series, ppd. Tom Bieber, 6003 Larkspur Dr., Alexandria, VA 22310.

STRANGERS IN Paradise #1-5 (regular series) $30 (NM), Clerks #1 $10, Oni Double Feature #1 $10. Mike 978-937-0990 or cass61591@aol.com to reserve.

DARKNESS #1-4 plus 50 different NM Independent Comics $25 postpaid. Charles Slater, 109 Prospect Ave., North Arlington, NJ 07031.

DARKMINDS #1 $15, #2 $10 plus other Hot Stuff- Battle Chasers, Danger Girl, Witchblade, Dawn for catalog. Visit our website www.nitrocomics.com 908-464-9787.

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WATCH FOR our story in Joe Zabel's Mystery Anthology Murder by Crowquill! Prizonopolis #1-4 $3.25 each. Mediawarp Comics, Box 14924, Minneapolis, MN 55414. wwwmediawarpcomics.com

CROW FAN starting fan club and fanzine dedicated to James O'Barr's creation w/exclusive interviews, art, photos, etc. SASE to: Exploding Boy, 707 Neshaminy St., Penndel, PA 19047.

KAOS MOON! Find out the latest news on the upcoming release! SASE for free newsletter. David Boller, PO Box 266, Gladstone, NJ 07934.

WITCHBLADE 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 $80; X-Files 1/2, 1, 1C, 2 thru 12 $85. Al Christiano, 47 Hansen Ave., New City, NY 10956.

"JONNY THM" (NM 1st printings) #1 $45, #2 $20, both for $60 ppd! Tim Markin, PO Box 8921, Erie, PA 16505. E-mail: mrcomix25@aol.com

CHEAP INDEPENDENTS, Marvels, DCs, from 80's, 90's. For list SASE: GE Guay, PO Box 142, Quincy, MA 02171-0003 or E-Mail: gguay@gis.net. Thanks to all responders!

4251 INDEPENDENTS, WANTED

CROW FAN seeking any items related to O'Barr comic/ first film. Books, T-shirts, photos, posters, prints, any Brandon Lee items, etc. Brett 215-757-2056.

BONGO COMICS Annual #1 hardbound wanted with jacket and matching certificate. Will pay $100. Mark Sossong, 6644 Tanque Verde #105, Tucson, AZ 85715. 520-977-3303.

EARLY CEREBUS wanted VF or better condition issues #2, #3, #4, #5 and #11, #12. Also will buy and/or trade. Charles 423-357-3197.

WOLFF AND Byrd, The Jam, Ms Tree, Madman, Grim Jack American Flagg. Looking to fill in runs. Rick Salierno, PO Box 1606, Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

POKEMAN, SAILOR Moon, Rumiko Takahashi wanted. Buy or trade. Send lists to: Michael, 7619 Vasos Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628.

4260 WESTERNS, FOR SALE

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ROCKY LANE #20 VG+ $23; #22 FN $26. P&H $3. Julius Gabriel, 110 West Susquehanna, Allentown, PA 18103-4100. 610-797-6877.

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HOPALONG #4, paying 100% Guide. Also need Real Western Hero #75, 77, 85, 87; Lone Ranger #37; Six Gun Hero 4-19. Steve 718-266-2004.

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SHADOW COMICS Vol. 7, No. 7, October 1947; Vol. 7, No. 8, November 1947. Mint, $600 each. James Maxwell, Box 367, Lampeter, PA 17537. 717-464-5572, 717-464-5573.

FREE CATALOG 90+ pages: Horror, Disney, Movie, Western, Esoteric, Sci-Fi. Send 4 32¢ stamps, $2 credit on first order: NACCA, 16 Split Rock Rd., Pittsford, NY 14534.

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MARVEL TALES 99 VG+ $140, 100 FI-VF $250, 101 VF $325, Marvel Boy #2 FI-VF $275. John Baklund, 21051 H Dr. North, Marshall, MI 49068, 616-781-2299.

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JUNGLE COMICS 105F+ $60, 69F+ $75, Jumbo Comics 96F+ $75, Police Comics 126F $47, Sheena 5VF $235. Phoenix Enterprises, 223 Fairview, Erin, NY 14838. 607-796-2547.

SUPERMAN #74 (Luthor Cover) G $50, Superboy #10 G $50, Plastic Man #50 VG+ $45, Tomahawk #5 G+ $30, Blackhawk #61 VG+ $30. Shags 253-862-5055.

DYNAMIC #13 VG $228. Smilin' Jack (FC#4) G- $95. V-Comics #2 Fair $125. All New Short Story #1 F- $860. 718-698-4210.

SHADOW COMICS Vol. 7, October, 1947, Vol. 7, No.8, November 1947, mint $600 each. James Maxwell, Box 367, Lampeter, PA 17537, 717-464-5572.

BRENDA STARR #10 FN+ $215, Flame #1 Lou Fine Cover VG $395, Blue Beetle #3 FN+ $375. Moongirl #7 VF $275. Richard 413-477-6971.

4300 GOLDEN AGE, FOR SALE

WONDER WOMAN 19 F+ $300. Mark Drummond, 1302 North 49th St. Apt 10, Omaha, NE 68132. 402-553-5804 after 7pm.

STEPHEN RITTER- New address. Just settled. 2825 21st Rd. S., Arlington, VA 22204. 703-486-4289. Free listings. Golden and Silver.

DON WINSLOW 31 VF, 32 VF @ $33; Gene Autry 14 VF, 20 VF @ $25; Hopalong Cassidy 24 F/VF $32; Shadow VG #3, VG $50. 716-834-0996.

MARCH OF Comics #134, #149, #154, VG/Fn/VG $23 postpaid. Paul Hudson, #18 Alfresco Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021. 314-391-8916.

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ACTION COMICS #49 G- $75, Adventure Comics #103 VF+ $2,000, Superman #91 VG+ $105 ppd. David King, 16012 Meridian Ave. N., Shoreline, WA 98133.

MARVEL MYSTERY Comics #80 VF- (1st app. Capt. America in Marvel Comics) $715, Thrilling Comics #5 VF/VF+ $330. Buy both for $1,000. Milan 718-721-9357.

RED CIRCLE #1 G- $78, Jeep #1 VF $340. Marvel Boy #2 VG $250. Sparkling Stars #21 VG $25. 718-698-4210.

TIP TOP 92 VG $20, Famous Funnies 198 VG $10, Wow 68 VG $10. John Collins, PO Box 1621, FDR Station, New York, NY 10150.

AIR ACE V3#2 F $38. Tailspin #1 VG+ $165. Blue Beetle #28 F $140. Camera #1 F $90. X-Venture #2 F $207. 718-698-4210.

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WANTED STILL: Negro Romance #2 and This Magazine Is Haunted #3. Condition: VG/VG+. Contact Dennis Brennan, 94-30 59 Ave., Rego Park, NY 11373.

FLASH, ALL American, Planet, Capt. Marvel Adv., Captain America, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman, Batman, Superman to 60%. William Giles, Box 271, Keithville, LA 71047. 318-925-6654.

ALL- FLASH, Planet, Crime Does Not Pay #24, #3. Call the Further Adventures at 252-447-5946 or E-mail: gjames99@hotmail.com

7X GUIDE!!! Catman #13 Fa-Fine. 5x guide: Catman #15-17 Fa-Fine, Out of Shadows #8 Fa-VG. 2x guide: Speed #31, Mystic (1940s) #9 Fa-Fine. Andy 212-260-8393.

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4310 SILVER AGE, FOR SALE

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http://members.tripod.com/~HAMRMAN52/index-4.html is my web page for Jack Kirby Comics for sale! Hamersky, PO Box 1334, San Diego, CA 92112.

AMAZING FANTASY 15 G- $750; G+ $900; ASM 1 G $700; G+ $800; TOS 39 FN/VF $1,275; Hulk 1 Fr/G $450. 732-495-0184.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #133-388 $600; Conan #2-256 $250; West Coast Avengers #1-77 $35; FF #1 (Fair) $350; New Jersey 732-495-0184, dford@netlabs.net

CHEAP SILVER Action 258FR $5, 264G $7, Adventure 280FR/G $6, Hawkman 4FR/G $10, 5FR/G $7. Karl Mattson, POB 784, Long Lake, MN 55356 612-473-3938. kmattson40eaol.com

AVENGERS DD Thor, TTA TOS Marvel Tales, collector item classics, Good-NM, 50% Guide. SASE. Kevin Dillon, 2045 E. 28th St., Brooklyn, NY 11229.

IRON MAN #1-13 high grade. #1 F, #2-13 VF-NM. Sold as set way below Guide. $200. Call Gene 319-232-7065 or email: fangene@aol.com

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TEEN TITANS (1966) #38 VF/NM $11, #39 VF/NM $11, #40 NM $10, #41 VF+ $8, $4 P&H. Merle Covell, 510 Union St., Lot #22, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547.

STAR TREK (GK) 3VGF, 4F+, 5VGF, 40VF- wrfc, 51F+, 52VF-20-25% off. 1,000's for sale. Want lists welcome. Dave Kell, 814 Clark, Canton, MO 63435-1222. dkell@culver.edu

GL #40 VG $110, #59, First Guy Gardner, G+/VG, $40. Superman, JLA, many other Silver Age. Write: John Pierce, 328 Powhatan, Columbus, OH 43204-1965.

4311 SILVER AGE, WANTED

SEND YOUR reading copies of Silver Age comics, poor to good. We'll pay you 25¢ to 75¢ each. Comics, Rt. 1 Box 405, Vergas, MN 56587.

COLLECTOR PAYING up to 3x guide for the following 50's Silver Age Flash book, high grade Flash wanted. Wanted by collector: Silver Age Flash issue 108 in very high grade VFN/NN or better. Paying multiple guide, 2x NM overstreet 1998 for the above book in VFN /NM cond. 3X NM overstreet for the above book in NM/M cond. Jim, days/ evenings 513-794-1513.

DC ROMANCE Comics wanted, 1961 to 1965. Send lists! David Barsalou, 12 Marion Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

ACG'S WANTED: Adventures into the Unknown 65, 70, 83. Forbidden Worlds 41, 42, 47, G-VG condition only. Steve Kane, Box 86, New Braintree, MA 01531.

BUYING AT 50% of OPG for NM-Mint, Conan 1-24, Green Lantern 76-89, Fantastic Four 25-54. Ken Caviness, 218 Fifth St., Monett, MO 65708. 417-235-3488.

LOW GRADE: G+/VG OAAWar #81; Two-Gun Kid #1; Kid Colt #1; Rawhide Kid #1. Bob Lane, 36 South Columbine, Lombard, IL 60148, 630-691-1251.

SILVER- AGE, lesser grade Superman, Superboy and Action wanted. Reading copies Fine. low prices wanted, trades? Send lists! Rich Sawyer, 15 Eggerbrecht Rd., LaPorte, IN 46350.

INCREDIBLE HULK #103 wanted in good condition only. Send replies to: Monte Foulks, 1505 Beverly Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19138.

DANGER TRAIL #2 and #3 in VG to F. Will pay 80% of Overstreet. Call Mike 413-323-7403.

WANTED DELL #1006, #1121, will pay $35 each, for strict VF+, write first. Buckley, PO Box 2733, Quincy, MA 02169.

ACTION #247 wanted! This is not the first Legion or the first Supergirl, it's just Action #247. Please call and leave a message. 972-932-4012, thanks.

4320 GENERAL COMICS, FOR SALE

THE 18¢ comic book is here! Send $18 money order for 100 1980's and 1990's mixture. J. Cahill, 95 Terrill Ave., Trenton, NJ 08619.

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STUF' FOR sale: comics, action figures, RPG, Sci-Fi at www.stufforsale.com

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MARVEL AND DC Comics for sale/ trade. Silver Age to modern. SASE for list to: Frank Campbell, 3008 Oakhurst, Austin, TX 78703.

MIGHTY COMICS #44, 46, 47 $7.50 each, $20 all 3, shipping $2. John Leonard, 1626 Shubel Ave., Lansing, MI 48910-1857.

JONNY QUEST Set 1-31 plus 2 specials and 3 classics, NM $75 for the set plus $3 shipping. John Leonard, 1626 Shubel Ave., Lansing, MI 48910-1852.

"NOW" SERIES of The Green Hornet "Now" Series of Kato "Valiant" Solar Man of Atom. Devitt, PO Box 217, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577.

YUP! 25¢: Archer Armstrong 26; Batman 500; Chaos Effect Omega; Rai 9-10; Supergirl Mini 2; X-Men 3¢, 38-39. Uncanny 309 Wildcats Adv. 1 309-796-0356, keithconant@usa.net

X-MEN BACK issues: $12.95 for ten different comics from X-Men and related titles. New condition. 25th Century, PO Box 7, Bloomington, IN 47402.

ROMANTIC MARRIAGE #4 VG, Ziff Davis $11, May 1951. Send want lists. Ray Olivieri, 33 Highland Ave., West Seneca, NY 14224. 716-675-8469.

LADY DEATH 1/2, 1A, 2, 3, mini series $75. Drama 1 $16 plus S&H. Write to reserve. Don Hicks, 55 Yeatts Court, Martinsville, VA 24112.

LARGE LIST of Comics for trade or sale. SASE to Gary Banks, 1406 Wisteria St SE, Cullman, AL 35055. Email: garybanks@mindspring.com

A LIST so big it needs two stamps to deliver it! SASE with two stamps to Michal Jacot, 606 Locke, East Tawas, MI 48730.

MICKEY MANTLE #1, #2, incredible comic book biographies, photo covers Magnum Comics limited bagged editions with postcards, $7 each, both $12 postpaid. OTB Distributors, PO Box 195, Cheektowaga, NY 14225.

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GOOD SELECTION. Great prices! Golden Age to current. Most priced under one dollar. Send 50¢ for list. Kent Alexander, 1402 Marilyn, Carterville, IL 62918.

25 COMICS/ $9.50, 50/ $16.50, 100/ $30, postpaid. DC, Marvel, Independents, last 20-25 years. Wife sez: "Comics Must Go!" Dave Kell, 814 Clark, Canton, MO 63435-1222. dkell@culver.edu

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WANTED: SURF Crazed Comics #3. Thoemke, PO Box 14261, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. Or E-mail: sthoemke@hotmail.com

BUYING NM Darkminds 1-2, Marvel Masterworks 17-20, Daredevil 1-2, Nightwing 1-5, Vampirella Special 1977 TMNT 1 1st print. Jeff, 9 Yorkshire Dr., Wheatley Heights, NY 11798. comixr4me@aol.com

WANTED: CRYING Freeman: Series 3 #'s 3-10, Series 4, #'51-4; Spirit #'s 80-End Of Kitchen Sink Reprints. Steve Sawolkin, 228-G Freedom Dr., Belleville, IL 62226.

COMICS WANTED 1939-1979. Dealer needs stock- We pay high! Also pulps, BLBs, magazines, paperbacks. Ed Kalb, 1353 S. Los Alamos, Mesa, AZ 85204. 602-981-8957.

WANTED: MOST issues of cartoons; Hot Rod cartoons; Drag cartoons. Gary Cooper, 300 Amherst NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106. garywc@unm.edu.

WANTED: YOUR extra issues of Richie Rich, Batman Family, DC's oversized "Limited Collector's Edition" or "Famous First Edition". Ken 303-745-4059 or kenottjr@aol.com

COMIC BOOKS wanted: Golden Age, all grades, all prices, any amount. Send list to: James Esposito, Box 2419, Milford, CT 06460.

I NEED Alan Moore's "From Hell" #8. Please help! MK, PO Box 662, Medway, MA 02053.

4321 GENERAL COMICS, WANTED

TRADERS WANTED. DC, Marvel, Indy. Send your list for mine. Robert Abbatomarco, 630 Albert Place, Ridgewood, NJ 07450-5309. Cards and action figures too. Thanks.

HELP! NEED Alan Moore's TPB from Fleetway-Skizz, please tell me price. D. Murphy, 6827 Pacific View Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90068. SKIZZ

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ADULT ANIMATION and art. $5 for video catalog. Statement of age required. I.G., PO Box 42, Washingtonville, NY 10992. 914-496-3213.

RANMA CEL: female, Ranma kitchen background painting, $200 or trade. Steven Ng, 4966 Hyde Park Drive, Fremont, CA 94538. 510-656-7157. stevenang@juno.com

HARVEY KURTZMAN art for sale. Art from Little Annie Fanny, Jungle Book and other originals available. Call Graphic Collectibles at 914-246-0952.

THOR #130 p.16 by Jack Kirby $550; Also wanted: Kirby Surfer and Inhumans Art! Curtis 415-386-5242.

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RANMA CEL: Male Ranma $75, or trade. SASE for copy. Steven Ng, 4966 Hyde Park Dr., Fremont, CA 94538. 510-656-7157. stevenang@juno.com

KEITH GIFFEN Kobra #6 pg. 25. Nice early Giffen 1976 clean page with Action $25 postpaid. Bob Nastasi, 12 Gillette Avenue, Sayville, NY 11782. 516-567-8069.

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WANTED: GENE Day Art. Send xerox and price. Roger Clark, 247 Kensington Way, Los Gatos, CA 95032. 408-377-1588.

TOTH, W. Wood, Krenkel, Corben, Moebivs, EC, OG, R. Griffin, Crumb, SC Wilson Etc. Art wanted. Pages, sketches, odd items. 732-946-0851, jfkelly@myhost.com

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RON GARVEY Captain America art wanted. Cover art preferred. Fax list: 864-458-7082.

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ART ADAMS Longshot #6 pages wanted. Also, will consider other Adams pieces. Ironman #215 & 216 covers wanted too! I have stuff for sale or trade. 415-624-0426.

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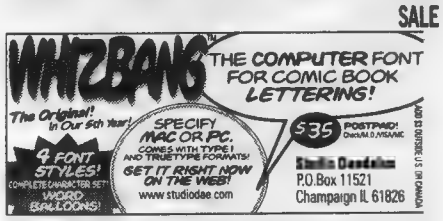

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GIRLY MAGAZINES Modern Man, Cavalier, Dude, Cavalcade, Sir, Monsieur, Carnival, Glamor Parade 1960s $5 each. Alfred Farrugio, 21 W. Lyons St., Melville, NY 11747.

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STARTLING MYSTERY Stories 1, 5, 7-8. World Wide Adventure 1-4. Marion Zimmer Bradley's Fantasy 4, 6. Gary Helfrich, 1635 Westley Court, Fort Wayne, IN 46845-6129.

4451 MAGAZINES, WANTED

ADULT CARD Collector Quarterly #1, Pamela Anderson Edenquest Set, Playboy Puzzles, Lady Death Mega Clear 1, 3, 5. Louis Bosse, 1120 Aurora, Muskegon, MI 49442-5932.

GIRLIE MAGAZINES wanted from the 1950's to mid-70's. Adam, Modern Man, all titles. Send pricelist to: Bill Megyery, 1733A. North Larrabee, Chicago, IL 60614. Thanks.

AMAZING HEROES issues with Star Wars comic strip reprints. Don Walsh, 323 Buchanan St., Alexandria, VA 22314-2105. 703-548-5742.

NATURALIST (NUDIST) material wanted. Buying non-airbrushed mags, books, etc... Send lists with issue number, year and conditions. S. Dowdy, 5120 North Spring, Roanoke, VA 24019.

WANTED GAY men's magazines from late 1970's to mid 1980's. Send lists to Andrew Garzotto, 936 Emerson Street, Brackenridge, PA 15014.

WANTED: FEB. '86 Inside Sports with Lisa Hartman pictorial reasonably priced. Could use several. Stan Raugh, 4217 8th Ave., Temple, PA 19560.

NAGARYA- PART 1 (by "Riverstone") published by Cha Cha-1994. John Mason, 200 Timber Lane, Baytown, TX 77520. 281-424-1082 or mason200@gte.net

1998 SAN Diego Comic Con program, 1998 Wizard World/ Chicago program are the items I'm looking for. Delmo Walters, 939 Woodycrest Ave. #416, Bronx, NY 10452.

JANUARY 1955 Playboy. Please send condition and price. "Mothers", 109 South Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790. 860-489-4880. jack.delaney@snet.net

4610 PORTFOLIOS/POSTERS FOR SALE

PORTFOLIOS, PRINTS. Hundreds available. Smith, Frazetta, Wrightson, Corben, Adams, Steranko, more! SASE for free list. I also buy! Wesley, P.O. Box 366, Morrow, GA 30260.

PRINTS: VAMP! vs Hemorrhage, Murderous Clown, Deadpool and Impulse, all signed! Linsner's Dawn. All $20 each! All cheap! Brad 603-221-1852!

FRAZETTA'S GOLDEN Girl Lithograph print (Russ Cochran 1975). 17x18. NM-Mint. Unsigned. $108 postpaid. Stuart Ng, 5900 West 76th St., Los Angeles, CA 90045. 310-645-4648. stuartng@juno.com

98 CROW Portfolio $35, signed lithographs $20, Little Mermaid $25, Calibre Crow $100, Dawn $100, Speechless Warner $50. Comic Art, 9582 Hamilton, CA 92646. 714-953-8333. pashnutguy@aol.com

4630 TRADING CARDS FOR SALE

THREE STOOGES color gum cards. Fleer 1959 85 different all VG $500. Jim Burke, 61 Parker St., Freehold, NJ 07728.

STAR TREK, Star Wars and other science fiction sets, inserts, and loose cards available. SASE with wantlist. Brevard, PO Box 2492, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

STAR TREK Voyager Profiles for sale. Sets $6. Inserts $2 or less. Jeff Thompson, 11 Bennington Way, Belle Mead, NJ 08502. 609-443-2340.

CARD SETS free shipping! Xena $10.00, Xena II $10.00, Buffy $15.00, Voyager Profiles $8.00, Mask Zorro $15.00. Sandra Defazio, 70 Cody Place, S.I., NY 10312.

DROP DEAD Prices Our Specialty! Up to 50% off book. Duke Card Co., 16 Middle Lane, Westbury, NY 11590. dukelabs@specdata.com

SELL GOLD - buy non-sports cards! Take advantage of our low, low prices. Duke Card Co., 16 Middle Lane, Westbury, NY 11590. dukelabs@specdata.com

ZORRO TRADING cards from 50's TV series, color, VG, near complete set. Available for best offer. Superman movie cards also. John, 328 Powhatan, Columbus, OH 43204-1965.

4631 TRADING CARDS WANTED

OVERPOWER CARDS wanted: Power Leech, Any Missions, Batman Holograms, Overpower Inserts. Contact: Rich, 2335 South California, Chicago, IL 60608. Phone: 773-254-6805.

SOLITAIRE/ MALIBU Ace of Spades from Solitaire #1! Does it exist? Thanks to all who responded in the past. redragon6@hotmail.com

WANT TO buy cards from Kenner Legends of Batman action figures. Charles Johnson, Gibbon, MN 55335.

OVERPOWER CARD wanted: Batman Stat card. Will pay double! Contact Rhyan Sollace, 6827 Indian Wells Rd., Morrisville, NC 27560, 919-469-8217.

TRADE TEN of your promos for ten of mine. Wanted: any interesting catalogues on original art. Tom Vanko, 1527 Somerset, Munster, IN 46321-4387.

BUYING MICKEY Mantle trading cards and memorabilia! We have sports star's autographs! Talk to Chris, The Book Barn, 3128 Main, Joplin, MO 64804. 417-782-2778. bookbarn@prodigy.net

JUSKO ERB P5 promo. Biosphere promos. Speed Racer P3 promo. Wildstorm A15 autograph. Dr. Who autographs. Bambi Suncoast Cel. Hellraiser Clive Barker autograph. 617-723-5155. martin_casas@yahoo.com

4660 MISCELLANEOUS, FOR SALE

ULTRAMAN GAIA, Uncut Japense monsters, Neverwhere, Isis, Shazam, Supermarionation, Red Dwarf. E-mail: UMANZOFFY@aol.com or 64¢ SASE, 2604 28th #5, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

SELLING SETS: The Amazing Adventures of Superman 223-363 MT $425; Superman 142 F $28; 189 F $20; Shadow 1973 1-12 MT $125; Kamandi 1-59 MT $380 all ppd. Phil Guntner, Box 9873, Baltimore, MD 21286.

SPIDER-MAN 1978 Marvel calendar VF+, $18 ppd. Chris 518-695-4247 before 10pm EST. Thanks and thanks CBG.

"DISNEY ANIMATION: The Illusion of Life" hardcover with dust jacket, first edition (1981), excellent condition, $50 retail, only $24 plus postage. Craig 651-698-8981.

DUSK TO Dawn uncut, Leon Integral, Naked Killer, many others available. Send for full list. Videos are $20 postpaid. 4661 30th Ave. N., St. Pete, FL 33713.

DRAGON'S LAIR Space Ace Cobra Command on video. Run through of entire games including all the different death scenes. $14 ppd. 414-363-3761. danzjekt@yahoo.com

ASTRO CITY S&N HCs. Both HCs for $160 ppd. Dangergirl #1 (Chromium) for $100 ppd. Call Phillip 918-748-0297.

PRINCESS MONONOKE, original letterboxed Japanese print of this outstanding Anime!! $20 includes shipping and handling. Send ck or MO to Jim Watnem, 5361 Eastway #4, Greendale, WI 53129.

HOWARD STERN Channel 9 syndicated show, 5 tapes, 5 episodes on each tape, 1st Generation SLP $15 each. Dillon, 2045 E. 28th St., Brooklyn, NY 11229.

ASIAN ACTION cinema! Hundreds of HK and Japanese titles on VHS. For catalog send SASE (2 stamps) to: Gweilo Video, PO Box 2811, Redmond, WA 98073.

HIGHLANDER MERCHANDISE: Jewelry, posters, production stills, t-shirts, mug, hat and new 18-month calendar. New. $50. Trish 630-759-2725.

HUGE FALL Clearance Oddball Sports Collectibles now available, $1 postpaid. Trades comics, stamps, toys accepted. Southshore, Box 262, Marlboro, NJ 07746. Phone: 1-732-972-9435, evenings, weekends.

WITCHBLADE #1 NM $35 includes priority shipping and insurance. Also have a ton of comic related cards for trade. Contact: shazntaz@juno.com or 904-641-2620.

OVERSTREET PRICE Guides #19, 21, 24 and 27 softcovers, $12 ea. ppd. or all $40 + 2 companions, #1 and #6, $5 ea. L. Gemmell, POB 740982, Arvada, CO 80006.

VIDEO SEARCH: I'll find and send that missing item. Sci-Fi, horror, noir, westerns... include postcard. G. Cook, 4 Mowbray Lane, Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724.

COMICS, VIDEOS, Mags and Books for sale. 1960s to date. Barry Smith, Neal Adams, more! Send SASE: Kim Klein, 6027 Brook Court, Clifton, VA 20124.

BETTY PAGES #'s 5,6 (State Age) Fine $20@; Superman America button (1961)- some rust spots otherwise fine; Tales Dark Knight (Futura) Mint $15; send SASE for list of #1. Philip Leibfred, 150 E 7th, New York, NY 10009.

"HARD ROCK" Cafe Buttons: four different @ $15 ppd. or will trade for those I need! B.K.M., 30 Young Ave., Croton- On-Hudson, NY 10520.

"UNCLE BUGS" Cast Iron Mechanical Bank, approx. 10" tall, MIB, seldom seen! @ $45 plus postage. B.K.M., 30 Young Avenue, Croton-On-Hudson, NY 10520.

RARE VIDEO Website over 700 titles and growing. Grandizer, Raideen, Danguard Ace, Gaiking, Mazinger, Getta Robo and more. http://home.earthlink.net/~coolstuff/

WATCHES: SPIDER-MAN $75, Death $75, Marvel Bisques; Spider-Man $85, Wolverine $85, Punisher $70, Silver Surfer $100, all 4 $285, Batman bronze $1,700, shipping. 516-679-2642 eves.

COMIC COVERS matted and framed! Full color 7.5x11 image size. Silver Age Covers. For list: Chris Jennison, 91 Kanawha Ave., Agawam, MA 01001.

75 BETA Videotape Cassettes, mostly blanks, still in shrink wrap, $3/ea. or $100/ all postpaid. Guido, #1 Screamer Dr., Clayton, GA 30525. 706-782-3318.

SELLING YOUR stuff? I can help with eye-catching display advertisements. Complete ad for under $75! Write John Simcoe, 7 Lark Circle, York, PA 17404.

4660 MISCELLANEOUS, FOR SALE

LIMITED, NUMBERED Batman, Robin and Joker DC statues, all three mint unopened: $1,500 the set. One set only available. Inquire via e-mail to: knightcea@aolcom

VIDOES IN clamshell packaging with artwork: "Spider-Man: Secret Wars", "Fantastic Four: Inhumans Saga". $15 each postpaid. Tom Kelly, PO Box 97, Eastanollee, GA 30538.

4661 MISCELLANEOUS, WANTED

HOT WHEELS cars and accessories from the 1960's and early 1970's. Clean out your closets and attics and make some cash. Call anytime. Gene 281-347-0648.

GROO BUTTONS from 1984 San Diego Convention (not Cloisonne pins). Contact: Gary, 8916 Blomberg St. SW, Olympia, WA 98512. E-mail: grossfam@olywa.net 360-352-0432.

EVIL ERNIE: The Ressurection. I need issues 3 and 4 or the TPB. Michael Quinn, 103 Lake Drive, Newburgh, NY 12550.

OUTER LIMITS (Showtime episodes) wanted. Other wants: Stingray (Anderson); Red Dwarf Series 8; Swirly Thing Alert. John Morris, 505 West Third St., Ashland, WI 54806-1517.

LOOKING FOR Glory, Erin, Princess Beanie Babies. Also Groo Comics & Cards. Plenty of cards, comics to trade. Write: Raymond Jordan, PO Box 59816, Potomac, MD 20859-9816.

LOOKING FOR Cutey Honey videos or other adv. videos. Please send info to: Jeff Langenberg, PO Box 894, Kearny, NE 68848. Thanks alot.

ANYONE INTERESTED in wacky packages, cards, or Monkee Memorabilia? Looking to trade for comics or comic pinbacks. Call Barry 402-556-4596.

MARLBORO MILES wanted: Paying 10¢ per 100 plus postage (maximum postage 55¢ per shipment). Send to: Scott Talmadge, 304 Major Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305.

LAUGH-IN PINBACK buttons wanted by collector. Also need Laugh-In Magazines #6, 8, 10, 12. Marc, 516-829-8376.

DEEP SOUTH Wrestling. I need videos of this plus other Mississippi Independent promotions. Please information wanted. Charles Kline, PO Box 791, Cleveland, MS 38732-0791.

MARVEL MASTERWORKS #11 (D.D.), any Gahan Wilson Cartoon Books, and F.F. 80-100. Please send list: Kim Klein, 6027 Little Brook Court, Clifton, VA 20124.

NAGARYA- PART 1 (by "Riverstone") and published by Cha Cha- 1994. John Mason, 200 Timber Lane, Baytown, TX 77520. 281-424-1082 or mason200@gte.net

LAURA ANTONELLI Movies 1960s thru early 1980s. Malicious, The Cello, Wifemistress, etc. JWP, 16506 W. 149th Terrace, Olathe, KS 66062.

NEED SOMEONE to tape "Two of a Kind," other shows for me. Will trade comics for tapes. Nelson Corey, RR#1 Box 1474, Waymart, PA 18472-9757.

4700 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES FOR SALE

MODEL KITS: Plastic, resin and vinyl. From and of comics, Sci-Fi, TV, movies, space, figures, etc. Old and new, hundreds available. Free sales catalog, we also buy and trade. JF Green Models, Dept. CBG, PO Box 55787, Riverside, CA 92517. 909-684-5300, 800-807-4759, Fax 909-684-8819, e-mail: cbg@greenmodels.com website: http://www.greenmodels.com

MCFARLANE TOYS Monsters First Series set of four, $65 ppd. Mike 702-324-4283 or Mike@Cheapthrills.Reno.NV.US

ALIEN 3 Queen chest Burster 1/1 scale PVC model kit from Halcyon $65, includes postage. Crossroads of Imagination, PO Box 210342, Woodhaven, NY 11421-0342.

SUPERMAN COLORING book, 1955 Whitman NM+ (rare) $125 OBO, Superman scrap book, 1940 VG $150, also rare. Vic 530-671-3956 before 9 PST.

DOCTOR MEGO'S repros go to http://www.drmego.com to see reproductions of many Mego accessories or call 516-753-1622 for a catalog.

MATTEL ELECTRONICS Handheld "Battlestar Galactica" "Space Alert" Game. Still has box and instructions. Works great! $100. Pop Culture Collectibles, 129 E. Sherman, Hutchinson, KS 67501. 316-662-3471.

4700 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES FOR SALE

SUPER POWERS: Green Lantern with mini comic. FNOC $30 includes shipping. Also, comics for sale. SASE: Linda Mar, 11015 Freer St., Temple City, CA 91780.

SUPERMAN KINGDOM Statue, retail $250, now $195 & $5 shipping; Witchblade figures, $29.95/ set & $4 shipping. Visa/ MC, Comic Zone, 37313 Maple, Fremont, CA 94536. 510-791-7406.

SPAWN: SAM and Twitch, Max, Malebolgia, X-Men: Battle Brigade Archangel, Mutant Armor: Red Pro.X, original X-men figures, Deadpool, others. Best offer 317-334-9640.

ABSORBING MAN, Maestro $10/ ea. Madman, Grendel, Mage $15/ each. 10" Xena $18. Add $4 shipping. Comic Planet, 1950 E. Greyhound Pass #18-339, Carmel, IN 46033-7730.

ELEVEN BOARD Games (1965) Man from U.N.C.L.E. to (1978) Charlie's Angels SASE for list and prices. Tony Iannone, 59 Concord Dr., Fairview Hts., IL 62208.

MEGO 12 inch Spidey C-10 in C-8 box $75, loose Myxlptk, $35 C-8. Kevin Dillon, 2045 E. 28th St., Brooklyn, NY 11229.

1959 WHAM-O frisbee, red with planets, mint, also "Mystery Y" frisbee, mint, $95 each. Put these beauties under your X-Mas tree! Cliff 978-927-4024.

KAYBEE KIRK & Spock from Mirror, Mirror Set $125, Spencer Riker P.Card Set $65, 12" Joker $30. Mark Arthington, 959 E. Main Street, Suite 243, Prattville, AL 36066.

CAPTAIN VIDEO Flying Saucer Ring. Mint, 100% Lustre with original string and both saucers, a beauty! $775 postpaid. John Fawcett, Box 1156, Waldoboro, Maine 04572.

1966 WHITMAN coloring books: Batman $10, Batman and Robin in the Batcave $10. $3 postage. John Atwater, 7213 Parkside Pl., Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91701.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN drawing machine by Avalon for sale. NMIB, $58, postage included! Please call to reserve. Rich Yanchus 717-829-2484, 6-11 p.m. EST. Thank you!

SPAWN VIKING and Vandalizer $30 postpaid. Call Chris 717-671-0588 or e-mail cupanzer@webtv.net

4701 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES WANTED

WANTED- DEATH (Sandman's Sister) customized Action figure(s). Any size. Top $ if done well. RogueAnkh-@aol.com or Roger at 717-757-5658. Also buying Death Convention sketches.

FROM THE 70's Marvel World playset, cardboard with characters 1976. Marvelmania Stationery, Marvel inflatable pillows, bumper stickers. Hal Reed, 320 Parkshore Dr., Columbia, SC 29223.

WORLD'S GREATEST Mego collector needs APES! Planet of the Apes figures, accessories, clothing, boxes, playsets and advertising. Contact Chris at carly@ldd.net

SMASHING PUMPKINS T-shirts wanted, also other S.P. items wanted. Call or write: Shannon McIntosh, PO Box 155, Mineral Wells, WV 26150. 304-489-9307.

WARHAMMER ARMIES: Sell me your miniatures! Warhammer, 40K and individual figures wanted. Send list. Condition and price to: Fred Quintrell, 1924 Sarazen Dr., Alhambra, CA 91803.

MATTEL MAJOR Matt Mason, MIB or loose, especially paperwork. Also Zeroids, Redline Hot Wheels, MMM's. Ray, 2428 Lyric, Los Angeles, CA 90027. 323-663-4578. ray.kolasa@unistudios.com

LUNCH BOXES wanted: Munsters, Fritos, Cracker Jack, Atom Ant, Steve Canyon, US Mail, Satellite, Beatles, 1950's Superman Kellogg's Archies, Supercar, more. Buy/trade. Doug 512-572-8658.

SUPERMAN WANTED! Can you believe it?! I'm still running Superman want ads! I've got plenty; I want more!! Danny Fuchs, 209-80 18th Ave., Bayside, NY 11360.

SUPERHERO AND science fiction games, both RPG and board games wanted. Greg Davis, 1418 North 725 West, West Bountiful, UT 84087.

TOTAL JUSTICE Batman and Robin (not Fractal). Paying $12 and $10 respectively, postpaid. Jim Troost, 1165 59th St. SE, Kentwood, MI 49508.i jtroost@remc8.k12.mi.us

4701 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES WANTED

CITADEL JOURNAL magazines from games workshop- need issues #1 thru #19. Allen, PO Box 540352, Dallas, TX 75354. Or e-mail: knightcea@aol.com Thanks!

4721 VIDEO GAMES WANTED

FINAL FANTASY 2 and 3 for SNES. Boxes and instructions preferred, but not absolutely necessary. Matt Biswell, 1626 Rossi St., Boise, ID 83706-3354.

4800 FANZINES, FOR SALE

JAPANESE ANIMATION Zine & Club. Reviews, translations, synopses, art. Plus 25% discount on anime videos. SASE or hasshin@tiac.net. Anime Hasshin, PO Box 5121, Manchester, NH 03108.

YELLOWBACK LIBRARY is a monthly magazine for collectors of juvenile series books. Sample issue $3. Gil O'Gara, Box 36172, Des Moines, IA 50315.

CBM BACK issues #22-62, VG to VF cond: Bill 408-733-4412.

COLLECTORS CLUB needs new members. Receive bi-monthly digest newsletter publishing member art, fiction, letters. Send stamp for information brochures. S. Dorne, 191-H Oakland St., Manchester, CT 06040.

4900 NEWSPAPER STRIPS, FOR SALE

PICK OUT dates. Daily and Sunday. Great Selection. 1895 to 1997. Send your wantlist and SASE to: Gordon Campbell, 1124 Brookmeade Drive, Nashville, TN 37204

BIG SUNDAY comic list, $1 (refundable). I also buy Sunday comics before 1960, pulp magazines, Edgar Rice Burrough's books. Claude Held, Box 515, Buffalo, NY 14225.

TERRY AND The Pirates scrapbook, looks complete, dailies, Sundays, Dec. 1942 to May 1943. Most loose, $30. Rob Griffith, 3456 Dixiana Dr., Lexington, KY 40517.

R.C. HARVEY'S Art of the Funnies, profusely illustrated aesthic history of milestone strips. Send SASE for brochure to: 2701 Maplewood Dr., Champaign, IL 61821.

HOGAN'S ALLEY loves Richard Kolkman! For fans of vintage, current comic strips, comic books. Sample $7. Hogan's Alley, POB 47684, Atlanta, GA 30362. www.cagle.com/hogan

BIG FLAT City on the Web! Are you an independent thinker? Or Status Quo Dummy? Ten years of chuckles at: http://members.aol.com/bigflatcit/index.html

BIG FLAT City Mini- Comics!.Supplies are not running low on these interestingly poignant & funny books. Only $1 each at: P.O. Box 68256, Indianapolis, IN 46268.

TARZAN IN Color published by NBM at $35, Vol. 1, 2, 3 $25 each, $65 all. Rob Griffith, 3456 Dixiana Dr., Lexington, KY 40517.

4901 NEWSPAPER STRIPS, WANTED

SUNDAY COMICS wanted. Large collections 1900-1960 immediate cash. Trades available. Peter Maresca, 450 Monroe Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94306, pete@zenda.com Phone/FAX: 415-941-7988.

MENOMONEE FALLS Gazette 70-71, 86 wanted. I'll pay well. Bachman, PO Box 1431, Oklahoma City, OK 73101. 405-495-4386. dbachman@icon.net.

BUYING COLLECTIONS, Puck sections, Spirit tabs. Phone/ Fax 510-666-0732. Starland Strips, 1563 Solano #155, Berkeley, CA 94707.

BUYING PRE-1930 Sunday pages, full color fulls! Paying high prices! See my "Todays Collector" ad! Michael Dice, Drawer 1748, Cortez, CO 81321. 970-564-9018. E-mail: oldcomix@fone.net

BRICK BRADFORD (1955-87), Buck Rogers (1950's), Bruce Gentry, X-9 (1960-67). Prefer clippings but will pay for xerox. Andrew Peopy, 1555 Sherman #156, Evanston, IL 60201.

WANTED: DOONESBURY books from 1970's 1st printings only in F or better. Roger Clark, 247 Kensington Way, Los Gatos, CA 95032. 408-377-1588.

SUPERMAN DAILIES From the 1950s. Xerox copies fine. Cochran, PO Box 242, Planetarium Station, New York, NY 10024-0242.

BID

(From Page 62)

same department at another number! Forget it! You want me to speak to this other number? Fine! Then you call it, you tell them what's going on, you get a supervisor, you get whoever is needed to fix this, and you do it now, or I'm going to call MCI's lawyers, PR department, president, whoever I can get and tell them about the blinding incompetence that is their customer service department!"

"Hold on, please."

Click. Click. More Muzak. *Click.*

"Customer service."

I wanted to scream. However, I stifled it, because this time it was a woman. Charlene, I believe her name was.

"Charlene," I said, "I've been talking to men for nearly an hour now. You're a woman. That means you're smarter. Solve this for me, OK?" I laid it out for her. She checked the records. "The account's already canceled," she said.

"What? When?"

"The end of September." Of course. That was when I got those calls verifying the MCI card in the first place. Those calls that I'd dismissed as an odd high-pressure sales gimmick had actually been from the elusive MCI fraud department, who'd never identified themselves as such, the way AT&T had.

"But — but if it's already been canceled for weeks now — why didn't any of the people I spoke to earlier *tell me that?*"

"I have no idea, sir. Hold on," she said, "while I credit the account. There. All done, sir. You shouldn't be getting any more bills."

She had accomplished in precisely one and a half minutes what three earlier customer service reps and more than 50 minutes of wasted time had failed to produce: An end to my non-existent account and eradication of the bill.

And the morals of the story are: (1) get an unlisted phone number, (2) always check your phone bills very carefully, and (3) Michael Jordan and the Tazmanian Devil represent the dumbest organization known to modern telephonics.

Peter David, writer of stuff, can be written to at To Be Continued, Inc., Cairo, Egypt.

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H. LAYOUT and design services are provided by Krause Publications for advertisers who do not submit camera-ready copy. Due to the creative and subjective nature of these services, credit will not be allowed for conceptual variations.
I. GRADING: Items offered in any ad must be properly described as to condition, conforming to the standards set forth in Comics Buyer's Guide Price Guide. Advertisers may also exercise the option of grading offerings by applying a unique personal system, providing the standards applied are detailed in the ad to avoid confusion.
J. RETURN PRIVILEGE: Except as otherwise specified in any ad, an advertiser must accept the return of any merchandise postmarked within ten working days of its receipt by a customer.
K. P.O. BOX ADS are allowed, but the permanent home address, phone number and place of business of the advertiser must be filed with the publisher before advertisements may be printed.
L. SPECIAL PAGE POSITIONS are available at a premium, inquire for details.
M. ADVERTISING AGENCIES: There are no agency discounts.
N. CAMERA READY display ads qualify for a 15% discount. Copy must be ready for camera without additional paste-up or film work required. No charge for reproductions, enlargements or mail response key change. Classified Display, Comics Trader, Collector's Showcase and classified word ads do not qualify for the camera ready discount.
O. SPACE RESERVATIONS available for camera ready ads only. Must be made prior to ad deadline. Reserved space must be paid for even if ad does not arrive on time.
P. PRE-PRINTED INSERTS are available in Comics Buyer's Guide. Inquire for additional information and technical specifications.
Q. CIRCULATION is throughout the United States and Canada by subscription and single copy sales by agents in shops and other outlets.
R. PROOF OF PUBLICATION: Tear sheets of new display ads are mailed to those advertisers requesting this service. We regret we cannot provide this service to classified advertisers.
S. NOTE: All advertising orders are accepted subject to the terms and provisions of the current rate card. Krause Publications, Inc. reserves the right to decline advertising or suspend advertising privileges for such periods of time as in its discretion it sees fit, for any reason, whatsoever, irrespective of the validity of the reasons for such declination or suspension. The forwarding of an order is construed as acceptance of all rates and conditions in effect at the time the advertising is submitted. The publisher will not be bound by any conditions, printed or otherwise, appearing on any order for advertising space, billing instructions or copy instructions which conflict with its policies. Advertisers and advertising agencies assume liability for all content (including text representation and illustrations) of advertisements printed, and also assumes responsibility of any claims arising therefrom made against the publisher. It is the advertiser's or agency's responsibility to obtain appropriate releases on any item or individual pictured in their advertising. All agreements are subject to strikes, accidents, acts of God, or other contingencies beyond the publisher's control. The publisher reserves the right to edit any advertising copy to conform with its standard advertising policies, and to reject any ad which in its opinion is unethical or objectional for any reason.

SEND ADS AND PAYMENT TO:
COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE
Advertising
700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990

COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE
700 East State Street
Iola, Wisconsin 54990
(715) 445-2214
FAX#(715) 445-4087
TELEX#55-6461
(Krause Publ.)

Advertising Deadlines

AD DEADLINE	NO.	ISSUE	AD DEADLINE	NO.	ISSUE
Tues., Nov. 3, 1998	1306	Nov. 27, 1998	Mon., Nov. 23, 1998	1309	Dec. 18, 1998
Tues., Nov. 10, 1998	1307	Dec. 4, 1998	Tues., Dec. 1, 1998	1310	Dec. 25, 1998
Tues., Nov. 17, 1998	1308	Dec. 11, 1998	Tues., Dec. 8, 1998	1311	Jan. 1, 1999

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively)

AD SIZE	1 ISSUE	6 ISSUES	13 ISSUES	26 ISSUES	52 ISSUES
A. 2 col. x 2-5/8" (4-7/8" x 2-5/8")	$100.00	$98.00	$96.00	$92.00	$84.00
B. 2 col. x 5-3/8" (4-7/8" x 5-3/8") or 4 col. x 2-5/8" (10" x 2-5/8")	$189.00	$185.00	$181.00	$174.00	$159.00
	$189.00	$185.00	$181.00	$174.00	$159.00
C. 2 col. x 11" (4-7/8" x 11") or 4 col. x 5-3/8" (10" x 5-3/8")	$294.00	$288.00	$282.00	$270.00	$247.00
	$294.00	$288.00	$282.00	$270.00	$247.00
D. 4 col. x 11" (10" x 11")	$530.00	$519.00	$509.00	$488.00	$445.00

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY

(Cost per ad: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts.)

AD SIZE	1 ISSUE	6 ISSUES	13 ISSUES	26 ISSUES	52 ISSUES
1. 1 col. x 1" (2-1/4" x 1")	$20.00	$19.50	$19.00	$18.00	$17.00
2. 1 col. x 2" (2-1/4" x 2")	$29.50	$29.00	$28.00	$27.00	$25.00
3. 1 col. x 3" (2-1/4" x 3")	$38.00	$37.00	$36.00	$35.00	$32.00

CLASSIFIED WORD ADS:

Our "Classified" ads are heavily read. Base rates are 40¢ per word with discounts for multiple issues. Please print and punctuate - we are not responsible for error due to long-hand and illegible copy. For more information see classified ad form in the classified section. Credit card customers can place word ads TOLL FREE - Call 1-800-942-0673. (This is for classified word ads only.)

UNIT ADVERTISING:

A. COLLECTORS SHOWCASE

Collectors Showcase Units are 3-1/4" wide x 1-5/8" high and can be bought in multiples. All typesetting is done by Krause Publications and is included in the price.

Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts

1 Issue	6 Issues	13 Issues	26 Issues	52 Issues
$30.00	$29.00	$28.00	$27.00	$25.00

B. COMICS TRADER ADS

"No-frills" advertising with a price to match. Design your own ad - just type your ad clearly on an 8-1/2"w x 8-1/2"h sheet of paper. We will reduce your Trader ad to fit a 1/9 page space (3-1/4"w x 3-1/4"h). Super Traders should be typed on an 8-1/2"w x 8-1/2"h sheet of paper which will be reduced to fit a 5" x 5" space.

Regular Trader
(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts. Limit 6 Trader spaces per page per advertiser.)

1 Issue	6 Issues	13 Issues	26 Issues	52 Issues
$41.00	$40.00	$39.00	$38.00	$34.00

Super Trader
(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts. Limit 2 Super Trader spaces per advertiser per page.)

1 Issue	6 Issues	13 Issues	26 Issues	52 Issues
$110.00	$108.00	$106.00	$101.00	$92.00

C. COMICS STRIPS

Comics Strip ads are 10"w x 2⅝"h and are reserved for publishers promoting their comic titles.

1 Issue	4 Issues
$85.00	$300.00

D. RETAILER DIRECTORY ..... $3.50 per issue

Leads fans to your cash register! List your store name, address, phone number and 15 words of description. Sold in 26 and 52 week increments. It's targeted more to the comics buff than the yellow pages - and it's more cost effective. If you sell COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE in your store, we will publish your listing in bold face type at no extra charge.

ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS

A completed reference form must be in our confidential files before any buy, sell or trade ad can be placed. See below. Minors are required to furnish a statement of responsibility from their parents or guardian before their advertising can be accepted.
Payment must accompany an advertisement and must be in the form of a personal check drawn on U.S., Canadian or Mexican bank; money orders; international money orders; cashier's checks; or with your VISA, MasterCard, American Express or NOVUS credit card. Send your credit card number, expiration date, and the name on the card, along with permission to charge the card for your ad, with your advertising copy.

REFERENCE FORM

COMPANY NAME _____
STREET ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
PHONE NO. _____
SOCIAL SECURITY # _____
TYPE OF BUSINESS _____
☐ CORPORATION
☐ CO PARTNERSHIP ☐ LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
NO. OF YEARS ESTABLISHED _____ ☐ INDIVIDUAL PROPRIETOR

PRINCIPAL OWNERS - STOCKHOLDERS - PARTNERS - OFFICERS OF COMPANY

NAME _____
MAILING ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
TITLE _____

TRADE REFERENCES

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
PHONE _____

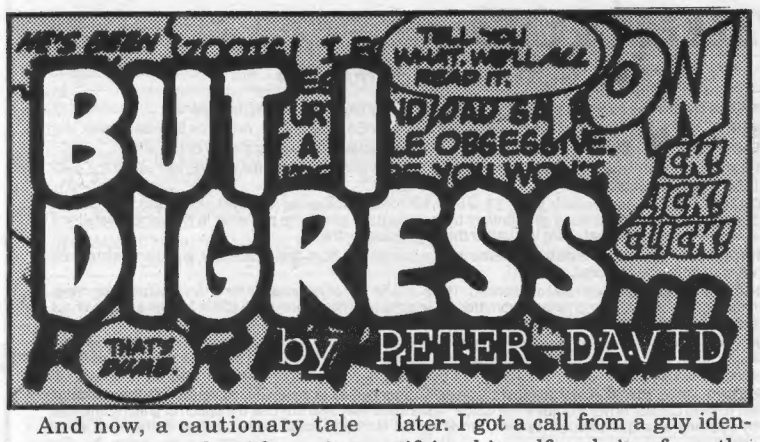
BANK REFERENCE

BANK NAME _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
PHONE _____
BANKING OFFICIAL _____

I (we) hereby authorize Krause Publications and/or its credit agent to investigate the references herein or statements or other data obtained from me or any other person pertaining to my credit and financial responsibility. I understand that it is Krause Publications' policy to require cash in advance for all advertising until credit has been established or approved.

Further, I (we), the undersigned, will be held personally responsible and promise to pay promptly within 15 days of the billing date for all advertising debts incurred by the above named business and owing to Krause Publications.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S) OF APPLICANT(S). _____



MCI invades BID

And now, a cautionary tale having nothing to do with comics, but which should be duly noted in the log of "things that could happen to you, so watch it."

A few months ago, the phone rang in my office (as it is wont to do.) I answered it, and there was a representative from MCI on the other end. "Hello, Mr. David," said the rep. "We're calling to verify your new MCI calling card."

Now I, like most of you out there, get calls from people trying to sell stuff all the time. You know the drill: "You have just been selected to receive: (1) a free subscription to a magazine you never heard of; (2) a free pair of ginsu knives; (3) a pre-approved Visa card; *etc.*" (The most irritating was when I would get calls offering me a subscription to *Newsday*, which I found particularly annoying since I already had one. During one particularly obnoxious round the subscription calls were coming on a weekly basis, and I finally got them to go away by calling the subscription supervisor and threatening to cancel my subscription if I got one more call asking me to subscribe.)

In short, one offer blends into another. Plus, sometimes I'll get calls from one service outfit or another offering me enrollment in some new plan guaranteed to save me money if only I will spend money that I hadn't intended to spend in the first place. So I figured that this was simply yet another endeavor to sell me something I didn't want by acting as if I'd ordered it in the first place.

"I don't have an MCI calling card," I explained, "nor did I order one, nor do I want one."

"Are you sure?" they asked.

"Quite sure, yes."

"OK," they said.

Next day, they called again. And the day after that. There was never any further explanation beyond, "We're calling to verify your new MCI calling card." I saw it merely as a fairly irritating sales ploy.

Because sometimes I'm a bit slow, you see. I didn't realize — someone actually *was* ordering the cards.

Flash forward to a few weeks later. I got a call from a guy identifying himself as being from the fraud bureau of AT&T. "We're calling about some unusual activity on your calling card."

Now, I really do have an AT&T calling card, and there indeed had been some "unusual" activity, in that my eldest daughter, Shana, had been out of town for more than a month and run up a fairly high bill on the calling card. So I said confidently, "Oh, yes, I knew all about that."

"So you made all these calls," he said.

"Well, not me, my daughter, but I know all about it. It's legit."

"So she knows people in Egypt?"

I stopped dead. I could feel the color draining from my face. "What?" I said slowly.

"Egypt." He paused, and then added, "And Yemen."

"Yemen?!" I squawked. "No! I don't think anyone in my family even knows where Yemen is! This is on my calling card?"

"Yes, sir. The calling card you ordered in September."

"I didn't order a calling card in September! The calling card I've got, I've had for seven years!"

"Yes, sir, I was afraid of that. Someone ordered a calling card in your name, attached to your phone number."

I was astounded. Apparently this kind of thing goes on all the time. Not only that, but there's a sort of worldwide fraudulent phone number ring, with sending and receiving points in Egypt and Yemen (which is why those calls lit up the AT&T security system.) The thieves order the false cards (from a pay phone) and then, once they've got the numbers, contact the switching points in Egypt and Yemen and relay the new numbers to them. The fake numbers are immediately passed along to customers around the world and my phone number starts racking up toll calls.

Usually AT&T reps catch this kind of thing before it actually happens. They run verification procedures. But according to the guy I was speaking with, every so often, a rep gets sloppy, doesn't do his or her job thoroughly, and a fake card slips through. Then it's up to the fraud department to catch it before it gets out of control — which this fellow just had done.

"We'll shut down the account immediately, sir," he said, apologizing for the inconvenience as if he had done anything wrong. I thanked him profusely for doing his job.

That evening my girlfriend, Kathleen, who was out of town, attempted to call me using my usual calling card number (which I had given her for just this purpose.) It wouldn't work. Instead she got a recording saying the account was unavailable.

AT&T had been too thorough. In addition to shutting down the false account, my legit account had also been blocked. Fortunately enough, the guy at the fraud department had left me his number, and I called him in frustration and explained what had happened. It still took two days to straighten it out, however, as he had to find a way to finesse the computer into putting the correct number back.

Just wait. It gets better. So now we're into October, and I got a bill from MCI. This struck me as rather odd. I mean, I think Michael Jordan and the Tazmanian Devil are great and all of that, but I hadn't switched long distance carriers, although I'd been tempted from time to time because they had some really neat bribes (sorry, "offers"). But I hadn't made the switch. So I couldn't figure out what the bill was for.

I cracked the envelope and discovered a bill for $45.

It was for my new MCI calling card. A card for which there were two calls attached.

One to Egypt. The other to Yemen.

"Oh, no," I moaned softly. (Well, not really — actually I shouted a rather loud profanity that, as Blackadder once said, rhymes with "clucking bell.")

I immediately called the customer service department for MCI, and hit that joy of the automated age, the automated voice menu. It offered me a series of options and I waded through about four or five until I'd pinpointed one that seemed to serve my immediate need. And then I sat. Dead silence on the other end for a couple of minutes. Then a click. Then I was disconnected.

It gets better. I phoned a second time. This time I employed the stunt I sometimes use to cut through voice menus: I did nothing. When prompted to push a button, I just sat there and listened. When you do this, the voice menu will decide that you either (a) are one of those rare beings who has a rotary phone or (b) you don't comprehend the instructions because you don't speak English or are just really really stupid. The trick worked. I waited a while, but this time there was Muzak, and finally I got a human being. I explained the situation to him. Unlike the AT&T fraud guy, the MCI customer-service guy didn't seem to have a clue as to what I was talking about. I explained it v-e-r-y s-l-o-w-l-y as the guy methodically took down the entire scenario. Then he paused, giving the situation the full and mighty weight of his brain power.

"I can't help you," he said finally. "You need to talk to the fraud department."

Now understand, the first sentence out of my mouth to the guy had been, "Someone fraudulently ordered a calling card using my phone number," so you'd have thought that — if he couldn't handle it — that would have tipped him off. "OK," I said. "Connect me to the fraud department, then."

"Hold on, sir."

Click. Muzak. *Click.* Voice menu. I listened to a series of options, none of which applied remotely to my situation. I tried my non-response ploy. The voice menu repeated. I remained silent. Voice menu kept repeating. "I'm in hell," I murmured. Finally it put me through to — more Muzak. More waiting.

I got somebody else, told them the situation, told them my phone number. "And you're saying you didn't make these calls on your MCI account?" he asked.

"I don't *have* an MCI account."

"OK. Sorry, sir. For verification purposes, could you tell me the last four digits of your Social Security number."

I paused. "I could tell you," I said, "but I'd be astounded if it matched up. I doubt whoever set it up knows my social security number. Whatever you have is probably fake."

Like a broken record, he repeated the request. I told him the four digits. He paused and then, as if he'd just caught me at something, informed me, "That's not what we have on record, sir."

"Oh, really, Holmes?" I was making no effort to keep the sarcasm from my voice. I'd already wasted 15 minutes on this. "I told you it wouldn't match. Now listen: It's no skin off my nose, because I have no intention of paying for these calls. But while we're going back and forth, for all I know, someone in Istanbul is calling Sydney and racking up MCI charges. So let's cancel this account."

"I can't do that, sir."

"Why — not?"

"Because it's not your account. I can't even discuss it with you since we can't verify the Social Security number."

I couldn't believe it. I was flashing back onto that immortal scene from *Ruthless People* in which the cops were confronted with the idiocy of Bill Pullman's gloriously dim-bulb character, and one of them mutters, "This may well be the most stupid man alive. Maybe we should shoot him."

"Of course it's not my account! It's a fake! It's fraudulent! Isn't this the fraud department?"

"No, sir. This is customer service."

That stopped me dead. "Then why am I talking to you? The previous guy told me he was connecting me to the fraud department! Silly me, I thought this was, therefore, the fraud department! Now will you please connect me to the fraud department?"

"Hold on."

Click. Click. Muzak. Brand new voice menu. This one was craftier than the previous one. After I listened to a series of options that didn't apply, I did nothing. It wouldn't accept nothing. It just kept repeating the same menu. After four repeats I took a shot at something that sounded like "High Toll Calls." Seemed reasonable.

More waiting. More Muzak. Got a rep. Explained the entire situation over to him again.

"Hold on, sir." He went away. More Muzak. He came back. "I can't help you, sir."

I could feel myself losing it. "Why — the hell — not? Isn't this the fraud department?"

"No, sir."

I didn't even ask why it wasn't. "Then put me through to the fraud department."

"I can't, sir. But I'll give you another 800 number you can call."

"Is that the fraud department?"

"No, sir. It's customer service. They're the ones who handle this kind of thing."

And I blew my stack. *"Oh, no, you don't!"* I bellowed. *"I started with customer service 45 minutes ago. And now you want me to start all over again, calling the*

(Continues on Page 60)

BAGS Unlimited INC

7 CANAL ST., DEPT. C, ROCHESTER, NY 14608

Use our **100% VIRGIN POLYETHYLENE** bags for the most **ECONOMICAL, ARCHIVAL STORAGE** of your collectables.

FREE PHONE CALL CATALOG

1-800-767-BAGS

NEW COMIC 6-7/8 x 10-3/8
Fits 1973 - Current Comics

	2 Mil	3 Mil	RESEALABLE 3 Mil
100	4.35	5.65	8.00
500	19.35	24.00	34.90
1000	28.45	33.75	58.00
5000	124.70	152.45	273.00
PCode:	SNC2	SNC3	SNC3R

REGULAR MARVEL 7-1/8 x 10-3/8
Fits 1962 - 1972 Comics

	2 Mil	3 Mil	RESEALABLE 3 Mil
100	4.35	5.65	8.00
500	19.35	24.00	35.90
1000	28.45	33.75	59.65
5000	124.70	152.45	273.00
PCode:	SMAR2	SMAR3	SMAR3R

DELL & SILVER AGE 7-1/2 x 10-3/8
Fits 1950 - 1962 Comics

	2 Mil	3 Mil
100	4.85	6.20
500	19.80	24.55
1000	35.50	41.10
5000	158.90	189.30
PCode:	SDSA2	SDSA3

GOLDEN AGE COMICS 7-7/8 x 10-3/8
Fits Pre-1950 Comics

	2 Mil	3 Mil
100	5.15	7.10
500	20.10	27.90
1000	36.45	47.70
5000	170.00	220.70
PCode:	SGA2	SGA3

MAGAZINES

	STANDARD 8-5/8 x 11-1/8		LARGE 8-7/8 x 11-1/8	
	2 Mil	3 Mil	2 Mil	3 Mil
100	7.25	9.35	8.00	10.30
500	28.35	34.00	31.10	37.40
1000	43.90	55.85	48.20	61.45
PCode:	SMAG2	SMAG3	SMAGL2	SMAGL3

LIFE MAGAZINE

	REGULAR 10-1/4 x 12-1/4		LARGE 10-7/8 X 14-1/4	
	2 Mil	3 Mil	2 Mil	3 Mil
50	4.90	6.70	5.95	7.60
100	8.65	9.30	9.20	11.00
500	37.50	41.90	40.20	48.45
1000	59.75	77.55	66.45	86.40
PCode:	SLMR2	SLMR3	SLMLC2	SLMLC3

TABLOID (No Flap)

	REGULAR 12 x 19		LARGE 14-1/4 x 19	
	2 Mil	3 Mil	2 Mil	3 Mil
50	8.90	11.10	9.20	13.25
100	12.40	16.45	13.55	19.40
500	47.05	64.35	51.75	75.95
1000	89.30	122.20	98.30	144.30
PCode:	STAB2	STAB3	STABL2	STABL3

ORIGINAL ART (No Flap)

	REGULAR 10-1/2 x 19	LARGE 11-1/2 x 19
	3 Mil	3 Mil
100	12.90	14.20
500	49.55	54.90
1000	93.90	104.40
PCode:	SOAS	SOAL

Note: Bags have a 1 1/2" flap unless noted.

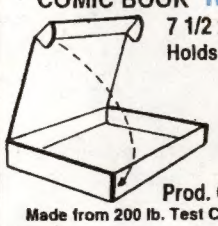
COMIC DIVIDER
7 3/8 x 10 7/8

PLASTIC		CORRUGATED	
		50	$9.25
25	$18.00	100	15.30
50	28.75	500	58.30
100	50.00	1,000	79.30+Frt
500	225.00	2,500	150.45+Frt
1,000	340.00+Frt	5,000	285.80+Frt
Prod. Code:	DCOMP		DCOM

.030 gauge White Polystyrene. Fits in our Comic Boxes with the lid on.

275 lb. Test Corrugated material. INDEXED and WHITE on one side.

COMIC BOOK MAILER
7 1/2 x 10 3/4 x 1 1/4
Holds 12-14 Comics

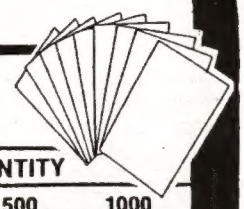


10	$8.50
25	16.00
50	27.00
100	43.50
250	90.00+Frt

Prod. Code MCOM14

Made from 200 lb. Test Corrugated material

BACKING BOARDS



- ECONOMY – .030" Thick non Acid-Free Grade. White on one side. For Intermediate Storage.
- INTERMEDIATE – .028" Thick Acid-Free, White on both sides. For Long Term Storage.
- SUPERIOR – .040" Thick Acid Free, White all the way thru with 3% Alkaline Buffer. For Indefinite Term Storage.

DESCRIPTION / SIZE	PRODUCT CODE	• GRADE	GAUGE (in)	PRICE PER QUANTITY 25	50	100	500	1000
NEW COMIC 6-11/16 x 10-3/8	KCB30N	ECONOMY	0.030	2.90	5.35	8.25	29.10	53.75
	KAF28N	INTERMEDIATE	0.028	5.90	10.55	16.50	66.65	117.50
	KAF40N	SUPERIOR	0.040	10.30	19.10	33.30	144.70	251.80
REGULAR MARVEL 6-15/16 x 10-3/8	KCB30R	ECONOMY	0.030	2.90	5.35	8.25	29.10	53.75
	KAF28R	INTERMEDIATE	0.028	5.90	10.55	16.50	66.65	117.50
	KAF40R	SUPERIOR	0.040	10.30	19.10	33.30	144.70	251.80
DELL & SILVER AGE 7-3/16 x 10-3/8	KCB30DSA	ECONOMY	0.030	3.55	5.55	8.75	35.45	60.00
	KAF28DSA	INTERMEDIATE	0.028	7.10	11.25	17.40	70.85	124.60
	KAF40DSA	SUPERIOR	0.040	11.00	19.35	36.65	153.50	266.85
GOLDEN AGE 7-11/16 x 10-3/8	KCB30GA	ECONOMY	0.030	3.80	5.90	9.25	37.25	63.55
	KAF28GA	INTERMEDIATE	0.028	7.60	11.75	18.50	74.45	131.65
	KAF40GA	SUPERIOR	0.040	11.85	21.50	37.50	162.70	282.95

STORAGE & DISPLAY BOXES

These boxes are stronge enough to stand on. They are 275 lb. test corrugated and come with a white finish. For EXTRA STRENGTH our LONG COMIC boxes have four thickness of cardboard on the ends where the handle holes are. Our Boxes are easy to assemble and need no tape or glue. All boxes come with 3" Deep Cover. BAGS UNLIMITED Boxes are the standard of the industry. DON'T SETTLE FOR SECOND BEST!

PAPERBACK
7-3/4 x 4-3/4 x 15
Holds 20 3/4"wide paperbacks.

2	$9.50
5	19.40
10	33.65
25	66.65
50	116.35
100	173.30 +Frt

Prod. Code XP20

MAGAZINE
9 x 11-1/2 x 15
Holds up to 150 Magazines. Also use for Golden Age Comic Books or folded One Sheets.

2	$9.50
5	19.40
10	33.65
25	66.65
50	116.35
100	173.30+Frt

Prod. Code XMAG150

LIFE MAGAZINE
11-1/2 x 14-3/4 x 15-3/4
Holds 60 - 65 Life Magazines.

2	$11.55
5	25.10
25	92.55
50	161.60
100	235.00 +Frt

Prod. Code XLM65

COMPACT COMIC
7-3/4 x 11 x 15
Holds up to 200 Comics

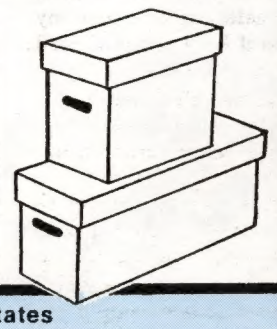
2	$9.40
5	21.05
10	32.65
25	67.45
50	100.00+Frt
100	180.00+Frt

Prod. Code XCC200

LONG COMIC
7-3/4 x 11 x 26
Holds up to 300 Comics

2	$11.20
5	25.55
10	48.20
25	106.40
50	141.50+Frt
100	250.00+Frt

Prod. Code XLC300



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PREVIEWS Exclusive

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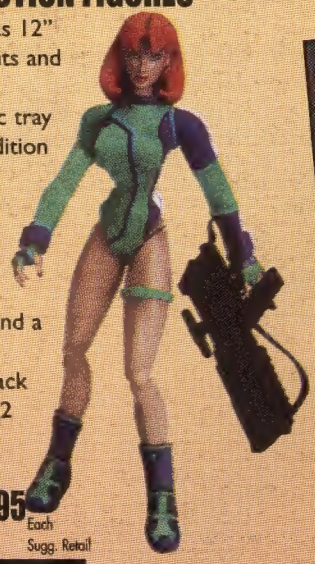
Available in the November issue of ***PREVIEWS***!
Be sure to request these toys now from your favorite comic shop! Available only in limited release!

PREVIEWS EXCLUSIVES

PREVIEWS EXCLUSIVE GEN13 12" SERIES I ACTION FIGURES



This all-new series brings the characters of *Gen13* to life as 12" action figures, complete with removable cloth outfits and major articulation! Each figure comes packaged in a collector-friendly re-sealable plastic tray packaging, along with an exclusive, limited edition Gen13 Chromium cover comic book in a protective Mylar sleeve!

This first series features:

- *Fairchild*—decked out in a one-piece legless jumpsuit with removable arm band and boots, and a *BIG* gun!
- *Lynch*—dressed in a two-piece black outfit, with removable boots and 2 pistols.

Look for special variant versions of both figures:

- *Fairchild* with a pony tail!
- *Lynch* with a snarling expression!

36.95 Each Sugg. Retail

NOV982283

PUPPET MASTER EXCLUSIVE ACTION FIGURES

A Previews Exclusive—the ONLY North American exclusive variants! These specially-produced figure features redesigned details and outfits!

- *Jester*—features a real purple cloth hat and shirt, green pants, gold boots and highlights, plus a spinning head mechanism!
- *Torch*—features a black head, green wool jacket, tan pants, black boots and a yellow, light-up flamethrower!

19.95 Each Sugg. Retail

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SHI RESIN STATUE

A Previews North American Exclusive! Here's a woman that'll get your blood pumping: William Tucci's *SHI*! The magnificent warrior woman is depicted in all her deadly grace and beauty, swinging her katana. *Shi* is a richly detailed 11" tall, fully-painted resin statue.

115.00 Each Sugg. Retail

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GIRLS OF JAMES BOND 6 3/4-INCH ACTION FIGURES SERIES I

Nothing compares to the high-tech gadgets and weaponry employed by James Bond... except for maybe the gorgeous gals and female spies that have crossed his path over the years!

Choose From:

- *Pussy Galore* (Honor Blackman in *Goldfinger*)
- *Jill Masterson* (Shirley Eaton in *Goldfinger*)
- *Tracy Di Vincenzo Bond* (Diana Rigg in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*)

Each figure comes with accessories, and a special numerical display stand that spells out "007" when set side-by-side!

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NOT A *PREVIEWS EXCLUSIVE*—BUT STILL COOL!

BATMAN ANIMATED DUO-FORCE ACTION FIGURES

Following in the footsteps of our previously offered *Harley Quinn* and *Supergirl* individually-offered figures, *Previews* now proudly offers the best of the *Batman D.U.O. Force* figures, each available individually for the first time through *Previews*! Although these figures are not true *Previews Exclusives*, we are one of the few sources to offer these cool *Batman Animated* figures individually (having purchased the majority of the manufacturer's supplies to offer to you)! Choose from:

- *Machine Gun Joker* (in gray trenchcoat w/Machine Gun & Dynamite)
- *Mr. Freeze* (w/Ice-Disk-Thrower Back-Pack)
- *Roto-Chopper Riddler* (w/Heli-Pack)
- *Wind Blitz Batgirl* (w/Batwing Hang-Glider/Sailboard)

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- **Official X-Files Magazine #9—Previews Exclusive Cover Edition**

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